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Zhivkov Receives USSR Deputy Foreign Minister

AU191816 Sofia BTA in English
1749 GMT 19 Jan 88

[Text] Sofia, January 19 (BTA)—Mr Todor Zhivkov, secretary general of the CC of the BCP and president of the State Council, received Mr Vadim Loginov, alternate-member of the CC of the CPSU and deputy minister of foreign affairs of the USSR. He is visiting this country for consultations between the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the two countries. The two sides discussed the development of the relations between Bulgaria and the Soviet Union, as well as certain topical issues. The meeting was attended by Mr Petur Mladenov, member of the Politburo of the CC of the BCP and minister of foreign affairs.

Zhivkov, Atanasov Congratulate Romanians

AU191227 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 16 Jan 88 pp 1, 6

[Text] Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the BCP Central Committee and chairman of the State Council, and Georgi Atanasov, chairman of the Council of Ministers, sent the following telegram to Nicolae Ceausescu, RCP general secretary and president of the SR of Romania, and to Constantin Dascalescu, prime minister of the SR of Romania:

Dear Comrades: On behalf of the BCP Central Committee, the State Council, and Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, and on behalf of all Bulgarian people, as well as on our own behalf, we convey most sincere congratulations and friendly wishes to you, to the RCP Central Committee, to the government of the SR of Romania, as well as to the fraternal Romanian people, on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of signing the Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Assistance Treaty between our two countries.

The signing of the Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Assistance Treaty between our two countries on 16 January 1948 marked the beginning of a new kind of relations between Bulgaria and Romania. Fruitful cooperation in all sectors was founded on the solid basis of this treaty.

We can point out with great satisfaction that in the 40 years since the signing of the treaty, the ascending development of our bilateral relations endowed the traditional friendship between our two peoples with new dimensions and prospects for the future.

We express our confidence that, with our joint efforts, cooperation between the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the SR of Romania , between the BCP and the RCP, will develop and further expand to the benefit of our socialist future. We are convinced that the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the SR of Romania, together with the USSR, and the other socialist countries, will continue to contribute to the cause of detente and disarmament, to the consolidation of peace and security in the Balkans, in Europe, and throughout the world.

On the occasion of our joint festive anniversary, we wish you, dear comrades, even greater, new successes in implementing the plans of the 13th RCP Congress and of the RCP National Conference, for the prosperity of your beautiful country, to the benefit of the fraternal Romanian people.

Social Justice, Restructuring Discussed

AU200849 Sofia TRUD in Bulgarian
15 Jan 88 pp 1, 2

[Article by Prof Dimitur Shopov, doctor of economy: "Labor Activity and Social Justice"]

[Excerpts] Increasing the working people's activity and developing their initiative and creativity is one of the basic problems of restructuring. The implementation of the party's strategy on a new qualitative growth in all social spheres requires that the material interest of the people be awaken in order to form adequate incentives to stimulate the socialist worker's labor activity, which can facilitate the implementation of socialism's advantages in the economic, scientific-technical, and social areas.

There are numerous means of solving this problem. However, the virtual truth is that it is possible to achieve a qualitative turning point in the labor activity only on the basis of socialist social justice and distribution which corresponds to this justice's requirements. [passage omitted]

There are several basic milestones along the road to such socialist justice which could prompt a turning point in the creative activity of the working people under the conditions of commodity-monetary relations.

First are the wholesale prices of production. In order to place the independent producers' labor collective under equal economic conditions and determine their real contribution to developing social production, the prices of production must correspond to its real value. Each price deviation from the value (regardless of the goals which prompt this deviation), deforms the price-forming mechanism of the labor collectives' results and objectively, and becomes a factor of unjust distribution. [passage omitted]

Second are the tax payments of the independent commodity producers. While ensuring the necessary means of satisfying the all-state needs, these payments must create equal economic conditions for the separate enterprises from the various branches on the one hand, and create real material incentives for the economic and highly efficient utilization of the material and labor resources on the other. [passage omitted]

Third, this is the mechanism for forming the "Labor Wages" fund. In order to implement the principle of social justice, the means allocated for the labor collective's wages must reflect the real results of its work, as well as the working people's real contribution to society. [passage omitted]

Fourth is the mechanism for forming the individual labor wages. This mechanism must create the possibility for every worker and employee to receive wages which correspond to the real results of his labor. The implementation of this extremely clear and indisputable dependence, which has become a synonym of social justice, turned into a hard nut of our social practice. Regardless how paradoxical it may sound, in most the labor collectives the equation "labor wages—labor results" is based on a system of evaluating the labor results, which either does not reflect those results or presents a deformed picture of the specific enterprise's labor achievements. The unjustified and broad application of the labor participation factor makes a significant "contribution" to this situation. It is impossible to justly determine the size of the labor wages without measuring and evaluating the results of the work of every worker and employee. [passage omitted]

Fifth is the mechanism of setting the tax on labor wages and income. From the viewpoint of social justice and the related development of the material interest and labor activity of those engaged in the social labor process, the taxes on labor wages and many kinds of labor income represent an anachronism under socialism. Furthermore, the progression-based tax charts deform the equation "labor wages—labor results." The result is that under otherwise equal conditions those who contribute more to society will receive less for one unit of labor contribution than those who contribute less. From this point of view the taxes on the labor wages are a classical means of decreasing the differentiation of wages and asserting wage-leveling in the distribution process. Taking into consideration the entire complexity of the problem of overcoming the deformation of distribution according to labor by gradually eliminating the "tax disorders," one must think about decreasing the external interference in the process of distributing according to labor, which is an important condition for developing the material interest of the working people and evoking real striving toward extremely high results. [passage omitted]

Catholics Appeal Against 'Interference'

AU191256 Vienna DIE PRESSE in German 16-17 Jan 88 p 2

[Text] Prague (KATHPRESS)—Thousands of CSSR Catholics have sent a petition to the country's authorities demanding an end to state interference in church affairs and the reestablishment of freedom of religion in the CSSR. The catalog contains a list of 31 detailed demands.

Prague's Cardinal Frantisek Tomasek announced that he fully supports this initiative on the part of believers. He also pointed out that this petition and the collection of signatures for it are "fully in accordance with the CSSR constitution and other valid rights."

CPSL Central Committee Issues Resolution

AU191508 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 15 Jan 88 p 2

["Resolution of the CPSL Central Committee" adopted at its session held in Bratislava on 14 January]

[Text] At its session on 14 January 1988 the CPSL Central Committee discussed the Report on the Implementation of the 17th CPCZ Congress' Resolution, and the Resolution of the CPSL Congress in the Sphere of Socioeconomic Development, on the Tasks of the 1988 Plan, on the Restructuring of the Economic Mechanism, and on the Deepening Socialist Democracy, delivered by Jozef Lenart, first secretary of the CPSL Central Committee.

It fully endorsed the results of the Seventh CPSL Central Committee Session. The Communists in Slovakia are aware of the pressing nature of the present period, which requires substantially accelerating efforts in implementing the strategy of acceleration and in carrying out the restructuring of the economic and social mechanism.

The CPSL Central Committee expresses the conviction that the results of the working visit by Comrade Milos Jakes, general secretary of our party, and his talks with Comrade Gorbachev will become the further impetus for the development of our society on a qualitatively higher level, that they will lead to the deepening of mutual cooperation, which will benefit and strengthen the position of the socialist community and peace in the world.

The Communists in Slovakia will exert all their energy for the successful implementation of the program for the social and economic development determined by the 17th CPCZ Congress, the realization of which is an integral part of the effort to restructure our society.

I.

The CPSL Central Committee assesses the results achieved in the 2 years of the current 5-year plan in the economy of the Slovak SR as positive.

The creation of material resources set by the plan was accomplished and in many respects exceeded. This increase was realized in the vital production branches, particularly in engineering and in electrical engineering. The tasks in agricultural production, especially regarding grain, are being essentially fulfilled. The tasks in integrated actions with and exports to the socialist states are being ensured. Several production organizations are successfully reducing their energy- and material-intensiveness while continuing to secure the supply of energy for individual branches. The tasks relating to the growth of personal and social consumption are being implemented in accordance with the set plans.

However, the—overall—positive development of the economy in Slovakia is accompanied by a number of problems and shortcomings, which prevent even faster progress.

In contrast with the resolution of the CPSL congress, the required growth of effectiveness, thriftiness, and profitability is not being ensured.

Many branches are not implementing tasks regarding reducing energy and material consumption, as well as their total costs. The imbalance in the fulfillment of tasks continues, and the number of organizations that are incapable of coping with their tasks is not decreasing. Many organizations, especially in the timber, furniture, and cellulose-par industries, are suffering losses.

The envisaged tasks regarding raising the technical-economic and technological standard of branches are not being fulfilled, a matter which retards a more substantial growth of the effectiveness and quality of production. The innovation process is insufficient and not flexible enough. This shows markedly in the electrical engineering industry.

The problems and shortcomings in the development to date increase the pressing nature of the planned tasks in 1988 and the consequent years of the current 5-year plan. The required growth of national income must be achieved by more effectively asserting intensification factors and deepening the qualitative aspects of development.

This requires us to more stringently than ever implement the measures adopted by the Fifth CPCZ Central Committee Session and the CPSL Central Committee Session. Accelerating the pace of the innovation of products and technologies on the basis of the latest findings of our own and world science is

of particular importance. We must increase the quality of production and its technical-economic standards more dynamically. Regarding this it is necessary to enhance the standard of management, demand much greater initiative and contributions from the sphere of implementation as well as from the organizations of the research-and-development base, from preproduction stages, institutes of higher learning, and the Slovak Academy of Sciences.

The fuller application of the results of science and technology has to be made by the more effective utilization of the possibilities arising from the cooperation with the CEMA countries, particularly by implementing the Comprehensive Program for Scientific-Technical Progress of the CEMA Member States Through the Year 2000. The task of state and economic agencies and organizations is to deepen practicality, flexibility and specific targeting, and contribute to a more effective and rational involvement in that program. We have to continue establishing advanced forms of cooperation on a qualitatively higher level. We have to establish direct relations of cooperation, establish joint collectives for solving tasks, and joint ventures and associations, and in this way create prerequisites for the growth of the competetiveness of the products and their profitability in foreign trade.

In the coming period capital investment must more markedly contribute to the modernization and reconstruction of the production-technical base, to the formation of the structure of individual branches, and to the solution of ecological problems. This year it is necessary to, in time and in good quality, finish the projects determined by the plan and thereby contribute to reducing the number of projects under construction and to the required creation of resources. Investors, builders, and other suppliers must do their best for a more marked progress in comprehensive housing construction, and deliver apartments within set deadlines, in the required numbers and quality, together with the appropriate civic and technical facilities at housing developments.

The fulfillment of this year's planned tasks requires breaking them down and ensuring them in the economic plans of organizations. A number of new problems, which endanger its fulfillment, will have to be resolved. From this viewpoint we must put exceptional stress on ensuring the needs of the market at home and abroad, on the supplier-user relations, the fulfillment of economic contracts, making a better use of the basic production assets, increasing the number of shifts worked, and the utilization of working time. We must more markedly eliminate unprofitability in production by adopting concrete and effective measures.

In order to cope with this year's tasks, we must comprehensively strengthen discipline and order, and organize the working people's initiatives and socialist competitions oriented, in particular, toward the fulfillment of qualitative indicators. In this respect we demand much greater activity from ministerial departments, ranking economic personnel, work collectives, and party, trade union, and youth organizations. Cadre changes will have to be carried out where long-lasting subjective shortcomings in management work have been the reason for the nonfulfillment of tasks.

II.

The CPSL Central Committee is aware of the need for new approaches in management. It commits party agencies, organizations, and all Communists to proceed consistently and effectively when implementing tasks arising from restructuring, to a high degree of responsibility and decisiveness when coping with the required changes.

It attaches great importance to the utilization of the preparatory period. Efforts have to be concentrated on mastering the Comprehensive Experiment in Raising the Independence and Accountability for Effective Development in organizations which have begun and which will begin realizing it. It also expects that the organization of domestic trade, public catering, services, and local economy will master the new economic conditions and thereby contribute more fully to satisfying the domestic market and the demands of the population for quick quality services.

The results of the organizations involved in the experiment must lead to the acquisition of practical experience for future activities, and for seeking the best solutions everywhere and, in particular, in those instances when the impact of the new economic instruments would create a complicated economic situation from the viewpoint of the application of economic accountability and self-financing.

This requires carrying out a consistent and permanent control, assessing the results of the experiment, and adopting concrete measures aimed at increasing the profitability of production.

In connection with the realization of the experiment it is necessary that the scientific-research base, too, consistently prepares itself for the implementation of the principles of economic accountability. This preparedness must lead to a greater interest of the aforementioned sphere in the contribution from the implementation of the findings of science and technology for the creation of national income.

It is necessary that the ongoing restructuring leads to the most effective mastering of tasks connected with the preparation of the long-term outlook for the development of the economy of the Slovak SR, the Ninth 5-Year Plan, while—at the same time—ensuring the tasks of the Eighth 5-Year Plan.

In these contexts, we must orient the attention of the planning agencies, ministries, the enterprise-economic sphere, the worksites of the Academy and other research toward the assertion of the required qualitative changes in social and economic development after 1990.

From Communists in the central national agencies as well as in the management of the production sphere we demand that they approach the fulfillment of tasks in harmony with the timetable of the work on the restructuring of the economic mechanism; that they concentrate their attention, in particular, upon mastering the organization of their enterprise-economic sphere and the central sphere of management. In this, they must proceed from ensuring the purposefulness, functionality, comprehensiveness, and conceptuality in management and strengthening the integration of the two republics on the principles of the state's federative structure.

III.

The party is the guarantee of the successful implementation of the tasks connected with the acceleration of society's social and economic development. We must take greatest care of its ideological and action unity and their further strengthening on the basis of the fulfillment of the line of the 17th CPCZ Congress. The restructuring of the economic mechanism and the deepening of socialist democracy, which stem from it, are putting qualitatively new demands on the activity of party agencies, organizations, and all Communists. Many party agencies and organizations have begun after the 17th CPCZ Congress searching with initiative for more effective forms and methods of their activity. The CPSL Central Committee fully supports such a course and calls for more boldly overcoming rigidity, busy work, and various stereotypes. Inactivity and wait-and-see attitudes are very dangerous today. Everywhere—beginning with the CPSL Central Committee and ending with the primary organizations—it is necessary to fundamentally improve the style of work, enhance consistency when implementing resolutions, and develop activity and initiative when fulfilling tasks and resolving problems.

The CPSL Central Committee stresses: Passivity is exceptionally harmful, as are attempts to shift responsibility for making decisions on others, bureaucratic methods of management, satisfaction with results achieved in the activity of central, state, and economic agencies, as well as in other components of management. In all those places there are Communists and the primary party organizations. It is necessary that they face tasks with communist determination. We demand from the departments of the CPSL Central Committee and from the entire apparatus that they acquire a more profound knowledge of the situation, more demandingly check the implementation of party resolutions, and provide better assistance to lower-level party organizations.

The implementation of the resolution of the seventh CPSL Central Committee session on the improvement of cadre policy increases demands on learning to know cadres better. The main criterion for their assessment is their practical contribution to the realization of the tasks connected with restructuring and their high authority in work collectives. A speedy implementation in life of the system of the life-long uninterrupted training of cadres is an exceptionally important task. The implementation of socialist democratism in cadre work requires public check of the cadres' activity. Party agencies and organizations are responsible for the implementation of these requirements.

The CPSL Central Committee and its departments will reassess the extent of their nomenklatura in the interest of creating conditions for making their work with cadres more demanding in their entire complex, and provide methodical assistance to lower-level party agencies in this respect.

Our immediate task is to fully project the contents of the Seventh CPSL Central Committee Session in the deliberations of the annual membership meetings and party conferences. It is necessary to create a creative atmosphere for this and strengthen the Communists' determination to fulfill the current demanding tasks.

THE CPSL CENTRAL COMMITTEE approves:

1. The report of the CPSL Central Committee: For the Consistent Implementation of the Line of the 17th CPCZ Congress and the Resolution of the CPSL Congress in the Sense of the Resolution of the Seventh CPCZ Central Committee Session;

2. The report on the state implementation plan of the Slovak SR for 1988;

3. The plan of the main tasks of the CPSL Central Committee for 1988 and the timetable of the work of agencies and commissions of the CPSL Central Committee for the first half of 1988;

4. The 1988 CPSL budget;

5. The report on the activity of the Presidium, the Secretariat, and commissions of the CPSL Central Committee since the 30-31 March 1987 session of the CPSL Central Committee;

6. The cadre proposals;

7. The CPSL Central Committee letter to Comrade Gustav Husak, president of the Republic;

8. The CPSL Central Committee letter to Milos Jakes, CPCZ Central Committee general secretary;

acknowledges:

1. The assessment of the public discussion of the draft laws on state enterprises; agricultural cooperatives; and production, consumer, and housing cooperatives;

2. The results of the fulfillment of the tasks of the Eighth 5-Year Plan in the Slovak SR for the 1986-87 period;

3. The development of cadre work in Slovakia since the 14th CPCZ Congress;

4. Information on the solution of suggestions, recommendations, and applications submitted at the CPSL Central Committee session on 10 December 1986 and the session of the CPSL Central Committee on 30-31 March 1987;

5. The CPSL Central Committee's political-organizational course in ensuring the results of the Seventh CPCZ Central Committee Session and the session of the CPSL Central Committee.

Jakes Telegram to Gorbachev at End of Visit

AU151333 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech
13 Jan 88 p 1

[CTK report: "Telegram From Aboard the Plane"]

[Text] On departing the USSR for Czechoslovakia, Milos Jakes sent the following telegram to Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, from aboard the plane:

Dear Comrade Gorbachev,

on departing the USSR I convey to the CPSU Central Committee and to you personally sincere thanks for the warm reception and comradely understanding extended to me.

Our talks took place in the spirit of the full unanimity of views and confirmed our firm resolve to further intensify fraternal relations and all-round cooperation in implementing the strategy of acceleration of the socioeconomic development of our countries, revolutionary restructuring, and democratization of social life.

I wish you and all Soviet people new successes in implementing the CPSU's Leninist policy in the interest of the further socialist development of your country and in the historic struggle to avert the threat of war and secure lasting peace in the world.

RUDE PRAVO Assesses Jakes-Gorbachev Talks

AU191026 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech
14 Jan 88 p 1

[Editorial: "Living Roots of Dynamic Cooperation"]

[Text] The first journey abroad by Comrade Milos Jakes, the newly elected CPCZ Central Committee general secretary, led to the Soviet Union. We have always acknowledged that the experiences of Lenin's party and of the first socialist state in the world are an important inspiration for us. At the same time, we do not hide the fact that we can not always correctly apply them or become part of them. At present, the experience from the restructuring of the Soviet economy and society is very valuable for us. The Czechoslovak Communists and our entire public follow with affinity the efforts of the CPSU and the Soviet people aimed at accelerating economic and social development and the steps leading to it.

At its 17th congress our party also decided in favor of this, the only correct direction of development, the objective of which is the further development of socialism in such a way as to fully prove the superiority of this progressive system and its attractiveness for all mankind, to bring it prosperity and peace. We are taking the same road as the Soviet Union, and thus it is necessary to exchange experience and consult one another all the more.

Comrade Jakes' brief visit to the Soviet Union really had a throughly working character. It was actually the continuation of the Czechoslovak-Soviet talks held on the occasion of the CPSU Central Committee general secretary's visit to Czechoslovakia last April, the continuation of the talks then conducted by Comrade Gustav Husak and other representatives of our party and state with Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev. It was linked with the agreements on the deepening and developing mutual cooperation, which are also undergoing restructuring.

A wide range of issues was on the agenda, corresponding to bilateral interests in many spheres. "Our talks were profound and rich in content," Comrade Jakes said at a dinner in the Kremlin. "They were marked by an atmosphere of frankness [otevrenost], mutual trust, and full unanimity of views on all fundamental issues of the domestic and foreign policy of our fraternal parties and countries... And I would like to stress that our unity also stems from full agreement when it comes to assessing the current revolutionary stage, and the requirements arising from it."

The two representatives highly valued the level of relations between our fraternal parties, the comprehensive Czechoslovak-Soviet cooperation, and the extensive contacts among social organizations and between the people of our countries. But at the same time they arrived at the conclusion that there are great possibilities to further expand and enrich this comprehensive cooperation, and enhance its effectiveness. In this connection Comrade Gorbachev said: "We highly value the current state of Soviet-Czechoslovak relations, and are convinced that—in the interest of both sides—it is necessary to move our cooperation forward in all respects, including the sphere of the superstructure [nadstavba]." Our talk was businesslike and we agreed to determine concrete tasks on a number of issues."

Restructuring introduces many new elements into our work, creates the need to reassess the forms to date, and seek more advantageous, more effective forms. It is obvious that in our cooperation with the Soviet Union the forms which have prevailed to date are also inadequate. The exchange of our machinery and consumer goods for Soviet raw materials, energy, and machinery cannot be the main form of our economic relations in the future. The development of intrabranch specialization and cooperation, above all by means of developing direct relations between our countries' enterprises and organizations, and establishing joint ventures and associations, should become the main form.

During the last year's visit by the CPSU Central Committee general secretary to the CSSR it was decided to work out a long-term concept of mutual economic cooperation between individual branches of our economies for the next 15-20 years. The two sides are working on this intensively. What will be involved, for example, will be our participation in integrative activities that are no longer exclusively in the sphere of the raw material base, but—in accordance with the realization of the Comprehensive Program for the Scientific and Technical Progress of the CEMA Member Countries—in the processing industry, that is, in the production of goods. A number of new topics were mentioned in the latest talks.

Direct relations between Czechoslovak and Soviet enterprises have been developed for quite some time now, and quite a lot has been done in that respect already. At the same time, however, we are discovering that many obstacles in the form of regulations which are still valid on both sides are obstructing a more extensive and deeper development of this form of relations, and that it will be necessary to introduce more of the spirit of restructuring into these matters as well. It shows that the road from plan to realization is unnecessarily long, and that in this case, too, correct intentions will not automatically assert themselves in life.

The economic relations with the Soviet Union are of the greatest importance and their development is most necessary, but close relations in other spheres of life, for example in culture, education, information media, and also in tourism, in getting to know people closer, and such like, are of no lesser importance for cooperation and fraternal friendship. The task of the future deliberations will be to make a concrete program for comprehensive cooperation out of the many subjects discussed.

In a 3 and 1/2 hour talk with Comrade Gorbachev, and in other talks, Comrade Jakes acquainted the Soviet Comrades with the experience acquired to date in our effort to fulfill the strategic line of the 17th Congress aimed at accelerating economic and social development. [graf continues]

He supplied information on the seventh CPCZ Central Committee session held last December, at which extensive conclusions were adopted for the further course in the comprehensive restructuring of the Czechoslovak economic mechanism and in deepening socialist democracy, but also fundamental conclusions on restructuring the party work, consolidating the party's unity and capability to act, improving cadre work, and combating formalism. And he said openly that we will make use of the findings of Soviet Communists in resolving these issues, in developing the policy of openness and public information, and in public control. The Soviet Communists were the first to begin restructuring, on a broad front, and therefore they have the greatest experience.

It has been said more than once that in that sense this is not a one-way street. By its practice each socialist country contributes to the common treasury of socialism, and everyone derives benefit from that experience. Thus, for example, some of our Czechoslovak solutions, whose impact we often hardly realize, also arouse attention in the Soviet Union. Our experience from housing construction is being studied, the practices of production and consumer cooperatives, our "Z" [community self-help] action, and many other manifestations of civic activity. We are pleased whenever they are also of help somewhere else.

The recent Czechoslovak-Soviet talks also touched upon the problems of the world, the international policy. Views were identical, absolutely unanimous both in the assessment of the past year, as well as regards future prospects, while fully respecting the differing responsibilities of our two countries. The new political thinking is also reflected in the foreign policy of the USSR and the other countries of the socialist community. The most important step of the past year is the Soviet-American treaty on the elimination of two classes of nuclear weapons, which creates prerequisites for limiting the feverish arms buildup and for better prospects for mankind. All socialist countries contribute their share to this, and a number of them have been coming forward with significant initiatives, the realization of which would improve the political atmosphere and mutual relations between West and East. One of these initiatives is the joint CSSR-GDR proposal for the creation of a corridor without nuclear and chemical weapons in central Europe.

Briefing Czechoslovak journalists on his return from Moscow about his immediate impressions from the talks and his stay, Comrade Jakes said:

"All that confirmed my conviction that cooperation with the Soviet Union has to be developed, because it is the foundation of Czechoslovakia's stable development, of its socialist development and, in the end, it is also the fulfillment of our objectives. Of course, above all, we are the ones who must work on the acceleration of social and economic development and make use of the wealth of the USSR's experience from restructuring and democratization. I am very satisfied. I leave the Soviet Union with the feeling that we still have quite a few things to do, that as regards cooperation there still exists a great

untapped potential which can accelerate our advancement. This is not only in our interest, but also in the interest of the Soviet Union and the entire socialist community."

Palestinian Students Protest at U.S. Embassy
LD191746 Prague CTK in English
1614 GMT 19 Jan 88

[Text] Prague Jan 19 (CTK)—Young Palestinians, representatives of the Progressive Movement of Palestinian Students in Czechoslovakia, met in front of the U.S. Embassy in Prague to protest against actions of Israeli aggressors in the occupied territories.

They voiced solidarity with Palestinians suffering in the Israeli-occupied Arab territories, and, in a statement handed over to a representative of the Embassy, categorically demanded withdrawal of Israeli forces from the region.

Stefanak Leaves for Talks with LCY Officials
LD191749 Prague Domestic Service in Slovak
1300 GMT 19 Jan 88

[Text] Michal Stefanak, member of the Central Committee and head of a department of the CPCZ Central Committee left Prague today for Belgrade for a friendly working visit. He will hold talks with LCY representatives on future cooperation between the two fraternal parties.

Deputy Minister Meets U.S. Congressmen
LD182324 Prague CTK in English
1814 GMT 18 Jan 88

[Text] Prague Jan 18 (CTK)—First Czechoslovak Deputy Foreign Minister Jaromir Johanes received here today a delegation of the House of Representatives of the U.S. Congress, led by member of the House's Foreign Affairs Committee and chairman of the subcommittee for Europe and the Middle East Tom Lantos.

They discussed the possibilities of further development of cooperation between Czechoslovakia and the United States, as well as some questions of the present international situation.

Later in the day, the U.S. guests were received by Deputy Chairman of the Czechoslovak Federal Assembly Bohuslav Kucera, together with chairmen of the Foreign Relations Committees of the House of the People and the House of Nations Miroslav Stepan and Vaclav Stafek.

Their talks focused mainly on topical questions of the development of the international situation and the role of the parliament in the process of disarmament and strengthening international security and cooperation.

Present at the two meetings was U.S. Ambassador to Czechoslovakia Julian M. Niemczyk.

On Monday, the U.S. congressmen were feceived also by Czechoslovak Communist Party Presidium member and Central Committee Secretary Vasil Bilak.

They discussed the possibilities of the development of cooperation between Czechoslovakia and the United States, as wella as some international topics.

Deputy Premier in Moscow for CEMA Conference
LD200322 Bratislava Domestic Service in Slovak
1730 GMT 19 Jan 88

[Text] Miroslav Toman, Czechoslovak deputy premier and federal minister of agriculture and food, arrived in Moscow today for a constituent session of the CEMA Committee on the Agro-Industrial Complex. He will hold talks with Soviet partners on bilateral cooperation in agriculture, the food industry, and other spheres of the agro-industrial complex.

Egyptian Media Coverage of Visit of Narozny

For media coverage of the visit to Egypt by Roman Narozny, deputy minister of foreign affiars, including his talks with Dr Brutrus Ghali, Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, and the signing of a protocol for cultural and educational cooperation, please see the Egyptian section of the 15 January Near East & South Asia DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

CPCZ Official Receives Israeli CP Delegation
LD191730 Prague CTK in English
1300 GMT 19 Jan 88

[Text] Prague Jan 19 (CTK)—A delegation of the Communist Party of Israel, led by its deputy general secretary Tawfiq Tubi, paid a short working visit to Czechoslovakia at the invitation of the Czechoslovak Communist Party Central Committee.

The delegation was received by Communist Party Central Committee Department head Michal Stefanak to discuss the activities of the Czechoslovak and Israeli Communist Parties. The representatives expressed the conviction that cooperation between the two parties will deepen and expand.

Bilak Receives Peruvian APRA Delegation
AU151912 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech
14 Jan 88 p 1

[Text] Prague (CTK)—Vasil Bilak, member of the Presidium and secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, received a delegation of the Peruvian American Popular Revolutionary Alliance [APRA] headed by General Secretary Armando Villanueva del Campo on Wednesday [13 January].

They exchanged views on the current situation in the world and in their two countries. They stressed the necessity of the unity of all progressive forces in the struggle to preserve peace and eliminate the threat of nuclear war.

They briefed one another on the tasks their two parties will be resolving in the coming period. They noted that the development of contacts between the CPCZ and the Peruvian APRA Party would be a contribution to the development of the spirit of friendship and cooperation between the nations of the two countries.

The reception was attended by Igor Velasquez Rodriguez, ambassador of the Republic of Peru to the CSSR.

The Peruvian APRA Party delegation was received by Tomas Travnicek deputy chairman of the Central Committee of the CSSR National Front, same day. They briefed one another on the political developments in their countries and the activity of the two organizations.

Spanish PCPE Study Delegation Visits

AU151650 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 13 Jan 88 p 2

[Text] Prague (z)—A delegation of the Communist Party of the Peoples of Spain [PCPE] headed by Jose Serradell, member of the Executive Committee and Central Committee secretary, is paying a visit to the CSSR at the invitation of the CPCZ Central Committee. The delegation is acquainting itself with experience from the CPCZ's work in ensuring the conclusions of the 17th CPCZ Congress, and developing political-organizational work and the party's internal life.

The study delegation was received by Mikulas Beno, CPCZ Central Committee secretary, on Tuesday [12 January]. In a comradely chat, the two representatives informed one another on the activity of their parties. They fully endorsed the peace efforts of the USSR and the countries of the socialist community. The importance of broad-based cooperation between the two fraternal countries was underscored, as well as the interest in continuing to develop the intensively.

The reception was attended by Karel Kovar, deputy head of a CPCZ Central Committee department.

Leaders Public Appearances 8-11 Jan

AU141601 [Editorial Report] Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech from 9to 12 January reports the following appearances of CSSR leaders (source, date, and page number of each report is given in parentheses):

In the presence of CSSR Deputy Premiers Ladislav Adamec, Peter Colotka, Rudolf Rohlicek, Ladislav Gerle, Pavel Hrivnak, Karol Laco, Jaromir Obzina, Svatopluk Potac, and Miroslav Toman, Lubomir Strougal, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and CSSR premier, presented CSSR Deputy Premier Matej Lucan the Order of the Republic on the occasion of his 60th birthday, in Prague, date not given.

Alois Indra, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and chairman of the CSSR Federal Assembly, presented Matej Lucan the CSSR Federal Assembly's greetings message on his 60th birthday, in Prague, date not given. (Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 11 Jan 87 p 1) Alois Indra received Bulgarian ambassador Khristo Petkov in connection with the end of the latter's tour of duty in the CSSR, in Prague on 11 January. (Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 12 Jan 87 p 1)

Peter Colotka, member of the Presidium of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and premier of the Slovak SR, was in attendance when Viliam Salgovic, chairman of the Slovak National Council, received heads of Bratislava consulates on the occasion of the New Year, in Bratislava on 11 January. (Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 12 Jan 87 p 2)

Arrest Warrants Issued Against Demonstrators

LD192148 Hamburg DPA in German 1850 GMT 19 Jan 88

[Text] East Berlin (DPA)—So far the GDR authorities have issued more than 20 arrest warrants for members of independent groups for their attempted independent participation in an official demonstration. At a meeting of members of various groups in East Berlin on Tuesday the lawyer Wolfgang Schnur said that according to the Chief State Prosecutor, arrest warrants were issued and investigations initiated against 22 persons. In addition, investigations are underway into a further five cases for which there are as yet no details as to whether arrest warrants would be issued.

The investigations are being conducted under Paragraph 217 of the GDR Penal Code on "assembly". In the case of singer-songwriter Stephan Krawczyk, Paragraph 214 on "hindering state and social activity" is also cited.

Commentary on Pentagon Strategy Report

AU191739 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND In German 15 Jan 88 p 2

[W.M. commentary: "Mobilization Against All"]

[Text] The report of the Commission for Integrated Long-Term Strategy presented in Washington on Tuesday [12 January] deserves utmost attention. Undoubtedly, the document has to be understood as a programmatic platform of those who do not regard the Washington missile agreement as the first step of nuclear disarmament, but as a slip that can only be made up for by stepped up armament.

The authors, among whom there are former U.S. security advisers Kissinger and Brzezinski, Generals Goodpapster and Vessey, and Pentagon State Secretary Ikle, issue the general line: "Strategic Defense for Nuclear Deterrence." For this they demand new arms technologies and structures for the armed forces, a mixture of offensive and defensive systems. NATO has to be capable of a nuclear first strike—deep within enemy territory.

With regard to Europe the authors of the paper—which Weinberger, then head of the Pentagon, ordered 15 months ago—decisively oppose a third zero solution. The West needs nuclear weapons deployed in Europe and has to be capable of nuclear blows—even if a conventional balance is created.

Anxious statements that "some allies could stay out of such situations" and that "the diffidence of allies and friends with regard to granting bases and overflying rights" has been recorded are remarkable in this context. According to FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE [ZEITUNG], the document is directed against "the opportunistic concepts of individual European politicians who—in the opinion of the authors—tend to neglect decisive defense efforts for the sake of armament control."

Thus, the Washington document shows the mobilization of those who disagree with the whole course, against all those who want to prevent a nuclear inferno, who are tackling questions of war and peace with reason and realism. How will the responsible politicians in the West react to this declaration of war? We, obviously, stick to the tested principle: Now, more than ever [jetzt erst recht]. Utmost, overall vigilance is imperative, as Erich Honecker said during the fifth Central Committee session. To strengthen socialism is and remains the decisive issue for us in the struggle for peace, for further disarmament steps.

Soviet Army Tank Involved in Train Crash

LD192153 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 2106 GMT 19 Jan 88

[Excerpt] Potsdam, 19 Jan (ADN)—There was a serious train crash at about 1750 this evening on the Leipzig-Berlin line. In the immediate vicinity of the Forst Zinna railway station in Potsdam area the Leipzig-Berlin-Stralsund express crashed into a Soviet Army tank which had tried to cross the rails on an open stretch of track. Nine of the carriages of the express were derailed, and three of them overturned. The train driver and three passengers were killed. Ten people were badly injured and 26 received lesser injuries. [passage omitted]

Driver, Assistant Arrested

LD201051 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1022 GMT 20 Jan 88

[Excerpts] Potsdam, 20 Jan (ADN)—Clearing-up operations are being continued intensively at the scene of the crash in the Potsdam Bezirk [area]. [passage omitted]

The driver and assistant driver of the Soviet Army tank, which attempted to cross the railway in the immediate neighborhood of the Forst Zinna railway station and so caused the serious accident, have been arrested by the responsible organs. Investigative proceedings have commenced against them.

CDU/CSU Paper on German Policy Dismissed

LD191755 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1637 GMT 19 Jan 88

[Text] Berlin, 19 Jan (ADN)—A commentary in tomorrow's edition of NEUES DEUTSCHLAND states that the paper published by the CDU/CSU Bundestag group on Tuesday on "German policy" is not worth the paper it is printed on. The CDU/CSU paper makes an attempt—which has failed for over 40 years now—to shape European policy while evading the realities. The authors evade the simple fact that it was the policy of the CDU/CSU under the leadership of its old master Konrad Adenauer that resulted in the emergence of two independent sovereign states, the FRG and the GDR, on whose territory lies West Berlin.

After all, every schoolboy knows that, following the demise of the Third Reich in the flames of World War II, the leadership grouped around Konrad Adenauer did everything, under the leading motto "Better Freedom Than Unity", to prevent a democratic Germany in line with the stipulations of the Potsdam Agreement, by founding the FRG. The "red peril" evoked by them was rooted so deeply in the minds of the founders of the Federal Republic that they rejected all proposals from the East which stood in the way of their intransigent will to create a separate state.

They are now faced with the shattered fragments of their illusions and no amount of unrealistic, not to mention nationalist, greater German, pan-Germanic resolutions can change this. This was confirmed—although proof was not required—to all the world in September 1987 with the playing of the national anthems of the GDR and the FRG and the honors performed by a batallion of the Bundeswehr in front of the Federal Chancellor's Office in Bonn. After all, the GDR, like the FRG, has been a member of the United Nations with all the accompanying rights and obligations since September 1973.

In short, a paper which ignores all the realities which emerged as a result of Wold war II and post war developments is useless. Neither can it solve a single issue which could be settled in the interests of the citizens both of the FRG and the GDR. Moreover, to overlook this is not in the interests of the peoples of Europe and the world, let alone of West Berliners themselves. The four-power agreement of 3 September 1971 unequivocally makes it clear, including to the authors of the above-mentioned paper, that West Berlin is not a part of the FRG and must not be governed by it. Everyone has been able to live with this quite well. It would in any case be as well for the West Berliners and for Europe if the resilience of the four-power agreement is not tested.

Trade Cooperation Talks With UK

LD190257 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1646 GMT 18 Jan 88

[Text] London, 18 Jan (ADN)—Dr Gerhard Beil, GDR foreign trade minister, was in London on 18 January for economic talks at the invitation of the British Government. He expressed the desire and readiness of the GDR to further expand its economic and scientific and technological relations with Great Britain on the basis of equal rights and mutual advantage.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, foreign and commonwealth secretary, stressed in the talk the interest of the British Government in the continuation of political dialogue for the benefit of advantageous relations between countries with different social orders. Consistent cooperation in the economic sphere has stabilizing influence on this.

In talks with trade and industry secretary, Lord Young of Graffham, and Trade Minister Alan Clark, both sides paid tribute to the fact that as a result of regular contacts at government level and diverse commercial activities, the economic relations between the GDR and Great Britain have been activated and are experiencing a definite revival.

There exists real opportunities to achieve a further upswing in bilateral relations in the coming years. Lord Young of Graffham and Minister Clark affirmed the interest of the British Government and economy in a considerable expansion of economic cooperation with the GDR.

Dr Beil emphasized that in recent years many British firms had received opportunities to participate with deliveries in cooperation with branches of GDR industry. In this way good preconditions are being created for the further expansion of bilateral economic relations. It was agreed to increase future activities by the two states particularly in the fields of textile and machine tool engineering, electrical engineering and electronics, foodstuffs processing, chemicals, medical technology, energy, and enviromental protection. Leading representatives of significant British concerns and banks welcomed in the course of a meeting the intensification of contacts to GDR foreign trade enterprises and combines and expressed their readiness to make an effective contribution to the expansion of economic cooperation to mutual advantage.

2d Britain-GDR Roundtable Talks Open

LD200332 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 2122 GMT 19 Jan 88

[Text] London, 19 Jan (ADN)—David Mellor, minister of state in the British Foreign Office, received Professor Max Schmidt, director of the International Politics and Economic Institute, for a talk in London today. Prof Schmidt is heading a GDR delegation to the 2d Britain-GDR roundtable talk, which begins tomorrow.

This round of discussion, scheduled to last several days, between politicians, academics, and journalists of the two states was held successfully for the first time last year in the GDR at the instigation of the British Royal Institute of International Affairs Chatham House. Its continuation, David Mellor stressed, is a contribution by both states to security and cooperation in Europe and an expression of the intensification of bilateral relations between Britain and the GDR. The roundtable talk is taking place at a time of encouraging signals for an improvement in East-West relations.

The British minister of state stressed his country's interest in the expansion of relations with socialist states and pointed to the role which the strengthening of economic cooperation plays in confidence and security building. He also expressed the hope that there would be early ratification of the Soviet-U.S. Treaty on the Elimination

of Intermediate-Range and Shorter-Range Missiles by the U.S. Senate, which Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher particularly supported. David Mellor spoke in favor of successful progress in the negotiations between the USSR and the United States on a 50 percent reduction in strategic nuclear weapons and emphasized the great importance of the signing of a treaty banning chemical weapons.

Hager Delegation Arrives in Italy 15 Jan

LD151714 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1418 GMT 15 Jan 88

[Text] Rome, 15 Jan 88 (ADN)—An official SED Central Committee delegation led by Kurt Hager, politburo member and Secretary of the SED Central Committee, arrived in Rome Friday at the invitation of the Italian Communist Party Central Committee. It was cordially welcomed at Ciampino Airport by Paolo Bufalini, member of the PCI party directorate.

Meets With Officials

LD181747 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1538 GMT 18 Jan 88

[Text] Naples, 18 Jan (ADN)—Kurt Hager, member of the Politburo and secretary of the SED Central Committee, and the Central Committee delegation led by him, had a cordial meeting today with Umberto Ranieri, member of the Italian Communist Party [PCI] National Executive and secretary of the Naples Federation Executive, and other members of the Party organization of the city and province.

During a friendly exchange of views, Umberto Ranieri spoke about the fight of the Neopolitan Communists against growing unemployment and other effects of the capitalist crisis. Unemployment, which amounts in southern Italy to over 20 percent, is especially harsh on youngsters 60 percent of whom are without a permanent job.

Umberto Ranieri explained the tasks and projects of the Communists concerning strengthening their influence in enterprises, establishments, and the public life of the city. The Communists are trying with many concrete proposals and initiatives to point out ways for solving the most urgent social problems of the working masses. Naples' Communists consider their active commitment to the fight for peace and disarmament as their most urgent task in 1988. As in other parts of the country, the Party and the Communist Youth Association of Italy are currently playing an active role in organizing rallies of solidarity with the fighting Palestinian people.

During the lively discussion the Italian interlocutors expressed great appreciation for the successful development of the GDR. Special tribute was paid to the decade-long fraternal solidarity between the German and Italian Communists who are working under different conditions for the peace and prosperity of their countries.

Received by PCI's Natta

LD191834 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1447 GMT 19 Jan 88

[Text] Rome, 19 Jan ADN—Alessandro Natta, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Italian Communist Party (PCI), today received the SED delegation led by Kurt Hager, member of the Politburo and secretary of the Central Committee, for a friendly exchange of opinions in Rome. Kurt Hager conveyed fraternal greetings from Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee, which were warmly reciprocated by Alessandro Natta. In view of the various complicated world problems both sides placed great emphasis on the deepening of the mutual exchange of thoughts and opinions, it was stressed.

During the discussion of international issues both sides made the assessment that the conclusion of the treaty between the United States and the USSR on the removal of medium-range nuclear missiles represents a historic milestone on the hard-fought path to a nuclear-free world, which the SED and the PCI wholeheartedly support.

This significant agreement became possible through the socialist states' constructive peace policy, the actions of the peace movement throughout the world and the efforts of responsible politicians in capitalist countries. Thus, it has been proved that in spite of much resistance a change of direction toward real disarmament is possible. This was an encouraging result for humanity. The SED and the PCI strongly support the global removal of land-based nuclear missiles not being compensated for by arming in other areas. From now on it is a matter of continuing negotiations on further disarmament steps purposefully and in accordance with the agreements. This is particularly true of the reduction of the USSR's and the U.S. strategic offensive weapons by 50 percent while strengthening the ABM Treaty, the end of all nuclear weapons' tests, and the destruction of chemical weapons as well as the reduction in conventional arms and forces.

The further process of disarmament will continue to require actions which are rich in initiative, as was expressed in Erich Honecker's latest letter to Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl. The committed cooperation of all peace-loving and realistically thinking forces is more necessary than ever. Positive impetus on this emanated from the recent Moscow meeting of 178 parties and movements. The responsibility of communists for maintaining peace is increasing.

The significance of the extension of equal, peaceful cooperation between states and the deepening of the dialogue between all forces which bear political responsibility for the creation of detente and security was stressed. Cooperation and not confrontation must determine one's actions in the common European home. Thus the SED and the PCI continue to actively support the further development of relations between the GDR and Italy.

Kurt Hager gave a briefing on the results of the fifth meeting of the SED Central Committee at which the assessment was made that the stable and dynamic development of the GDR's performance was continuing. It is of particular importance that the mastering of the scientific and technical revolution is indissoluably bound up with social security and progress.

Alessandro Natta explained the PCI's activities in defending the vital interests of the working masses and the active contribution of the Italian Communists to bringing about conditions for change in all areas of the life of society.

The parties agreed to deepen relations between the PCI and the SED in a tried and trusted manner. Taking part in the talks from the PCI side were Party Executive members Paolo Bufalini and Antonio Rubbi and from the SED side Otto Reinhold, member of the Central Committee and rector of the Academy of Social Sciences of the SED Central Committee, and Heinz Lehmann, deputy director of the Central Committee Department for International Relations. GDR Ambassador Dr Wolfgang Kieswetter was also present.

Cuba's Castro Greets Honecker on Anniversary

AU151135 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 14 Jan 88 p 1

[ND report: "Republic of Cuba for Deepening Fraternal Alliance With the GDR"]

[Text] East Berlin—Fidel Castro Ruz, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Cuban Communist Party [PCC] and chairman of the State Council and the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cuba, has sent the following message to Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council:

Dear Comrade Erich Honecker,

On the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Republic of Cuba and the GDR we convey to you, the SED Central Committee, and all the people of our fraternal country fraternal congratulations on behalf of the PCC, the people, and the government of the Republic of Cuba.

We note with satisfaction that over the past quarter of the century our relations, which are based on the consistent application of the principles of socialist internationalism, have been steadily further developed and deepened.

During these years of advantageous bilateral relations between the two countries in the political, economic, scientific-technological, and cultural areas, many agreements have been concluded, the highlight of which was the signing of the treaty on friendship and cooperation in May 1980.

Socialist Cuba will always gratefully remember that it was and is a matter of honor and conviction for the industrious GDR people to deepen and strengthen the relations with our country. We have always been able to count on their support and their solidarity and encouragement.

We consider the outstanding successes achieved by your country in building the developed socialist society and in consistently implementing an anti-imperialist and internationalist foreign policy as our own.

Together with the USSR and the other socialist countries, the GDR was and is a bulwark of the defense of detente and world peace. All this has increased its international reputation even more.

I take this memorable and gratifying opportunity to affirm our strong determination to further deepen and consolidate the fraternal alliance, which unites our parties, governments, and peoples, and to express our best wishes for new successes in reaching the targets set by the 11th SED Congress.

Fidel Castro Ruz, first secretary of the PCC Central Committee and chairman of the State Council and the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cuba.

Stoph Interviewed on Relations

FL132142 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 13 Jan 88

[Text] During today's 25th anniversary celebration of the establishment of relations between Cuba and the GDR, we are presenting an excerpt of an interview recently given to Cuban Television by Willi Stoph, chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers and member of the Politburo of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany [SED]. The interview by (?our correspondent), (Ricardo Moro), took place in Berlin.

[Begin recording] [Stoph, in German with superimposed Spanish translation] The fraternal relations of cooperation and friendship between our states are cause for great satisfaction. These relations are developing in a continual and planned manner [words indistinct]. The axis on which these relations revolve is the close alliance of struggle between the SED and the PCC. This alliance has

always been given momentum by the meetings between the leaders of both parties and brother states, Comrades Erich Honecker and Fidel Castro.

The close cooperation in all areas of political, economic, technical-scientific, and cultural life has been acquiring new dimensions and increasingly extends to more areas.

Allow me to take this opportunity to convey to the PCC members and to the whole Cuban population the warmest greetings on behalf of the communists and all workers from the GDR.

[(Moro)] Thank you for kindly granting this interview to Cuban Television. [end recording]

Stoph Receives Libyan Official 14 Jan
AU191604 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 15 Jan 88 p 2

[Text] On Thursday [14 January] Willi Stoph, chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers, received Daw Abdella Kelani [spelling as published], secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, for a first visit.

Currency Limits for Travel to Hungary and CSSR
AU191409 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 15 Jan 87 p 2

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—According to the National Bank's press office, in 1988 GDR citizens who visit the CSSR as individual tourists are entitled to obtain funds to pay for their travel up to a maximum of Kcs1,320, with the previous daily exchange quotas being maintained.

The maximum amount for travel by individual tourists to the Hungarian People's Republic is 2,300 forints in 1988. Also in this case the daily quotas that have been valid so far are maintained.

The acquisition of means to pay for the travel is recorded, as before, in the documents accompanying the identity card. Information is given by the branches and exchange offices of the GDR National Bank.

[Vienna DIE PRESSE in German 16-17 Jan 87 carries the following report on page 2: "Apparently, the GDR wants to curb private visits to the CSSR and Hungary. In future, GDR citizens are entitled to change only Kcs1,320 per year. This corresponds only to eleven full daily quotas for the whole year. For Hungary the maximum quota per year was reduced from 2,650 to 2,300 forints"]

Goods Supply Protocol Signed With Hungary
LD142032 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1753 GMT 14 Jan 88

[Text] Berlin, 14 Jan (ADN)—In Berlin on Thursday, the GDR and the People's Republic of Hungary agreed upon the mutual supply of goods and services in 1988. The protocol on this, signed by the deputy foreign trade ministers of the two countries, Dietrich Lemke and Zoltan Gombocz, is based on a long-term trade agreement for the period 1986 to 1990 and serve the further deepening of socialist economic integration.

Among other things, the GDR will supply considerable numbers of machines, equipment and products in electrical engineering and electronics. A large part of the volume of trade consists of mutual supplies of electronic components, microchips, computers, special technological equipment for microelectronics and agricultural products.

Hungarian exports to the GDR will comprise, inter alia, equipment for modernization projects in the coal and energy industry, omnibusses, assemblies for road vehicles, machine tools, rolling mill equipment and a wide range of electrical engineering products. The mutual supplies of raw materials, chemical products and consumer goods will be continued.

Kessler Receives Hungarian Deputy Minister
AU191809 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 15 Jan 88 p 2

[Text] East Berlin (ADN)—On Thursday [14 January] Army General Heinz Kessler, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo and minister of national defense, received Lieutenant General Sandor Kiss, deputy minister of national defense of the Hungarian People's Republic and director of the Armament and Technology Main Directorate, who is visiting the GDR for several days.

During the meeting in the Defense Ministry, Army General Kessler briefed his visitor on the initiatives and achievements of the GDR's soldiers in the implementation of the class assignment set by the 11th SED Congress. Like in the national economy, in the Armed Forces it is becoming increasingly important to ensure the required performance increase through comprehensive intensification and rationalization. Thus the army members are making an important contribution to safeguarding peace and protecting the socialist achievements.

Lieutenant General Kiss conveyed cordial greetings from Colonel General Ferenc Karpati, minister of national defense of the Hungarian People's Republic, which were reciprocated by Army General Kessler.

The meeting was attended by Colonel General Joachim Goldbach, deputy minister of national defense and chief of the Technology and Weaponry Main Administration.

Beil, CSSR's Stracar Sign 1988 Trade Protocol
LD142122 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1816 GMT 14 Jan 88

[Text] Berlin, 14 Jan (ADN)—The continuation of the extensive, and stable trade relations between the GDR and the CSSR in 1988 was the subject of discussion between GDR Foreign Trade Minister Dr Gerhard Beil and Deputy CSSR Minister of Foreign Trade Dr Jan Stracar on Thursday in Berlin. A protocol on trade for 1988 was signed.

The ministers stated in agreement that the exchange of goods and services is developing on the basis of the long-term trade agreement for the period 1986 to 1990. The expression of the high level of socialist economic integration between the two countries is the great proportion of products in the turnover which are manufactured on the basis of governmental agreements, ministerial accords and contracts on specialization and cooperation. This amounts to 43 percent. Particularly large parts of this are made up by microelectronics and fiber optics products.

A significant proportion of the goods supplied by the two countries are made up by equipment, machinery and instruments which are connected with, or serve the development of key technologies. Traditional mutual supplies of raw materials and fuels are being continued. An extensive exchange of consumer goods was agreed.

Kessler Receives CSSR Chief of General Staff
AU151128 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 14 Jan 88 p 2

[Text] East Berlin (ADN)—On Wednesday [13 January] Army General Heinz Kessler, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo and minister of national defense, received Colonel General Miroslav Vacek, fist deputy minister of national defense and chief of the General Staff of the Czechoslovak People's Army. [name and title as published]

The talks in the Ministry of National Defense focused on the current military-political situation and the responsibility resulting from it for the allied Armed Forces for protecting peace and the socialist achievements. In the course of the meeting Army General Heinz Kessler paid tribute to the efforts of the members of both fraternal armies in close cooperation with the Soviet comrades-in-arms and the other socialist Armed Forces in the center of Europe on the sensitive dividing line between the world's two largest military coalitions for a secure peace and strong socialism.

Colonel General Vacek conveyed greetings from Army General Milan Vaclavik, CSSR minister of national defense, which were cordially reciprocated by Army General Kessler.

The meeting was attended by Colonel General Fritz Streletz, deputy GDR minister of national defense and chief of the Main Staff of the National People's Army.

Foreign Minister Fischer Meets Iranian Envoy
LD191720 Tehran IRNA in English 1645 GMT 19 Jan 88

["U.S., NATO Presence in Persian Gulf Backfires, Says GDR"—IRNA headline]

[Text] Tehran, Jan 19, IRNA—Foreign Minister of the German Democratic Republic (GDR) Oskar Fischer said Monday, the NATO presence in the Persian Gulf not only did not help preserve regional security but has even made the situation more dangerous.

Fischer in a meeting with Iran's Ambassador to GDR Hamid Asefi, added that the United States created more tension in the region by dispatching its forces to the Persian Gulf.

The German Democratic Republic has always condemned presence of foreign forces in the Persian Gulf, he reiterated.

Fischer expressing satisfaction with the existing relations, called for further expansion of Iran-GDR ties. In response Asefi referring to the U.N. Security Council Resolution 598, said the United States sponsored the resolution in order to send its fleets and those of NATO to the Persian Gulf. At present it is pressing for another resolution so that it could justify its presence, he added.

During the meeting, Asefi stressed that withdrawal of foreign forces from the Persian Gulf region was the only way to remove tension.

On the Iraqi imposed war, he said that international conventions could bring just and stable peace to the region by introducing and punishing the aggressor.

Central Committee Greets Ecuador Leader
AU191800 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 16-17 Jan 88 p 2

[Message from the SED Central Committee signed by General Secretary Erich Honecker to Rene Mauge, general secretary of the Communist Party of Ecuador: "Congratulations for Rene Mauge; Birthday Greetings from Erich Honecker to General Secretary of Communist Party of Ecuador"]

[Text] On the occasion of your 50th birthday, I convey cordial congratulations and fraternal militant greetings to you on behalf of the SED Central Committee as well as on my own behalf.

The Communists of the GDR respect your dedicated work at the head of the Communist Party of Ecuador for national independence, democracy, and a progressive social alternative for the well-being of the Ecuadorean people.

As a friend of our socialist German state, you are making an important contribution to strengthening fraternal cooperation between our parties and to developing friendly relations between the peoples of the GDR and Ecuador.

Dear Comrade Rene Mauge, I wish you the best of health, creative vigor, and success for your responsible activity for our joint struggle to preserve world peace and to bring about social progress.

With communist greetings,

SED Central Committee

E. Honecker,

general secretary

Minister Fischer Receives YAR Official

LD142041 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1728 GMT 14 Jan 88

[Text] Berlin, 14 Jan (ADN)—On Thursday GDR Minister of Foreign Affairs Oskar Fischer received the undersecretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the Yemen Arab Republic [YAR], Ahmad Muhammad al-'Iryani, for a friendly talk.

Oskar Fischer and Ahmad Muhammad al-'Iryani paid tribute to the conclusion of the treaty on the complete removal of Soviet and U.S. medium and shorter range missiles as a historic event which is giving important impetus to the improvement of the international climate. Oskar Fischer noted that the GDR, which has made a generally acknowledged contribution to the creation of the agreement, is now working just as hard for its implementation and new, far-reaching measures. It regard the peaceful solution of all regional conflicts as an important step toward the creation of a comprehensive system of world peace and international security.

The Yemeni politician expressed the deep concern of his country about the acute aggravation of the situation in the Gulf region. The Yemen Arab Republic, like the GDR, is in favor of a just and lasting settlement of the Middle East problem, including the securing of the national rights of the Palestinian people, and the fastest possible ending of the Iraq-Iran conflict on the basis of UN Security Council Resolution 598.

Both sides stressed the positive development of bilateral relations and discussed ways to further deepen them.

Ahmad Muhammad al-'Iryani is in the GDR for consultation at the invitation of the deputy minister of foreign affairs, Dr Heinz-Dieter Winter.

Government Spokesman Gives Press Conference

AU191149 Budapest MAGYAR HIRLAP in Hungarian 15 Jan 88 pp 1,5

[Unattributed report on press conference given by Government Spokesman Rezso Banyasz: "Council of Ministers Holds Meeting—Planned Economy Committee Established—Review of the Performance of the People's Economy in 1987—Appreciation for Retail Trade Workers' Activity at the End of the Year"—in Budapest on 14 January]

[Excerpts] The Council of Ministers held a meeting on 14 January. The government spokesman provided the following information about the meeting:

The Council of Ministers heard the report submitted by the chairman of the National Planning Office on the economic development achieved in 1987 and on certain issues concerning the shift to 1988.

The government established a Planned Economy Committee.

The foreign minister briefed the Council of Ministers on the 42d UN General Assembly session. The government approved the report.

The Council of Ministers expressed its appreciation for the activity carried out by retail trade workers in recent weeks, and for their exemplary attitude. [passage omitted]

NEPSZABADSAG Correspondent: The winter session of the National Assembly discussed the further development of government organization and the renewal and reorganization of administration activity within the further development of the system of political institutions, and discussed a reexamination of the background institutions, a reduction in the number of them, and the rationalization of their activity. What is the situation in this field?

[Banyasz] Today, modernizing the structure of the government is on the agenda of almost every government session. Among other things, the government session held on 31 December 1987 dealt with the so-called background institutions in detail. Some 50 institutions governed by ministries and state authorities and financed from the state budget come under this sphere, and these institutions are directly involved in solving the tasks of their founding organs. These institutions deal with research, development, training and further training of leaders, organizational and computer services, information and documentation services, and so on. [passage omitted]

Preparations for a comprehensive reorganization and a considerable reduction in these institutions are currently underway. The results of an examination have to be submitted to the bodies of state administration by the founding ministries by May 1988. [passage omitted]

MAGYAR HIRLAP Correspondent: What will be the sphere of authority of the newly established Planned Economy Committee to replace the three existing economic government committees?

[Banyasz] Easing the burden of the government and providing genuine professional preparation of government decisions require the creation of a uniform, government economic committee. Therefore, the Council of Ministers decided to establish a Planned Economy Committee. The industry minister, the trade minister, the minister of agriculture and food, the chairman of the National Planning Office, and the finance minister will be the members of the new committee that will operate as an economic policy cabinet. The chairman of the Hungarian National Bank, the chairman of the National Technological Development Committee, and the head of the Secretariat of the Council of Ministers will participate as permanent observers in the activity of the newly established committee. Deputy Premier Peter Medgyessy, the chairman of the newly established committee, will be obliged to invite every minister, head of a body with a national sphere of authority, and head of a public body and bodies that represent interests to the meetings of the committee if issues are discussed that rightly concern these bodies. [passage omitted]

VASARNAPI HIREK Correspondent: There are rumors that the number of young people in state care is increasing and the number of people who accept the role of foster parents is decreasing proportionally. Has the government exact data on this issue?

[Banyasz] To tell the truth, I also had the impression that the number of such young people is increasing year by year, until I received the relevant data from the Ministry of Education and Culture and the Central Statistical Office. These data show a steady decrease in the number of such young people. There were 34,380 young people in state care in 1976; a decade later, the number stood at 30,619. This means, therefore, an almost 10-percent decrease in a decade. [passage omitted]

Some 25.6 percent of all children in state care were raised by foster parents in 1986. This proportion is identical with that of the previous year. At the same time, 5,329 foster parents received children under state care in their homes in 1986, slightly fewer than a year before. It would be desirable to further increase the number of foster parents, but we must also admit that the current economic situation does not encourage families to assume additional financial burdens. [passage omitted]

MAGYAR NEMZET Correspondent: The great wave of purchases by the people at the end of last year greatly taxed the resources of the National Savings Bank. How much did this buying spree empty the Bank's reserves?

[Banyasz] I have good news: On 31 December 1987 the stock of the people's savings deposited at the National Savings Bank and at the savings cooperatives stood at 285 billion forints, 10 billion forints more than in the previous year, in spite of the fact that there was a considerable increase in purchases of consumer durables and real estate between June and the middle of December 1987, as a result of news of the impending tax and price reforms. [passage omitted]

Probably also due to the increase in interest rates, a favorable change began in the middle of December last year. Some of the previously liquidated savings accounts and cash savings flowed back to the financial institutions. According to our information, this trend is continuing in January this year. [passage omitted]

SFRY Earthquake Registered by Observatory

LD201117 Budapest MTI in English 1027 GMT 20 Jan 88

[Text] Budapest, Hungary 20 (MTI)—At 0.15 A.M. Wednesday the seismological observatory of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences registered an earthquake with its epicentre in Yugoslavia, 190 kilometres south of Pecs, where it was also felt. The quake measured 4.2 on the Richter scale. No damage was reported.

Condition of Production Cooperatives

AU191210 Budapest NEPSZAVA in Hungarian 7 Jan 88 p 4

[Article by Janos Cseh: "Production Cooperatives on The Balance—The Leading Group Has Come to a Sudden Halt"] txt

[Text] There are many rumors these days about production cooperatives. According to some, the fact that several dozen weakened production cooperatives, out of the several-hundred cooperatives, have not yet been liquidated or reorganized can be attributed only to the fact that they have been given a period of grace until the end of the year. In many places one can hear that in 1988 things will be different and production cooperatives that devour millions of forints will not be given extensions. Production cooperatives in many other places will be unable to avoid liquidation, which was the fate of the production cooperatives at Cigand and Arlo in Borsod County.

It would be expedient to see things clearly. This seems to be a very small request, but which is not easy to satisfy, because every analysis quotes different numbers. Even the reports published by the Agricultural Cooperatives National Council, which has the most accurate figures, are modified every month. According to the most recent data, 500 production cooperatives are either barely or not at all able to manage profitably at the moment. This is a very considerable figure because it amounts to about one-third of the cooperatives. Erosive processes are already discernible in these cooperatives: Their staff is decreasing, and an increase in their production potential, and the maintenance of their active assets are causing great difficulties.

All the Difficulties Occurred at the Same Time [subhead]

Anybody who has visited several production cooperatives these days knows that everyday work there is characterized by the desire to make an effort and to act, and by the need to overcome the difficulties. The main efforts made by the managers are to adjust the cooperatives' development to the economic environment. This is particularly true in the case of large-scale enterprises that are already accumulating losses or that are on the verge of accumulating them. Their managers are constantly worried about maintaining solvency and most of the managers' difficulties are caused by their attempts to preserve their financial balance. Most of the managers think that everything coincided in an unusual manner: regulations became too strict; subsidies to the agriculture were reduced more than originally intended; world market requirements are extraordinary; and in addition, the weather—several years of drought—further reduces the chances.

For months nobody has spoken of a bright situation. However, it is surprising that the best production cooperatives with the greatest potential for development have also come to a sudden halt. Nevertheless, this is what happened in 1987. The opposite situation who characteristic in the recent years. This sector has constantly served as a driving force and everybody was clearly shown the possibilities inherent in economic management, and where and in what areas it was possible to find unexploited opportunities. The best 450 enterprises were regarded as some kind of examples. Like well-functioning probes, they indicated the development of the processes. Their present performance, however, reflects the fact that even the strongest and most successful cooperatives were unable to prevent the emergence of unfavorable production conditions in their basic activities: plant cultivation, animal husbandry, and gardening. And they were unable to fully offset all this, even by expanding their ancillary activities, activities that were previously regarded as a miraculous cure for such difficulties. This certainly requires increased attention and, moreover, examination. Istvan Szabo, chairman of the Agricultural Cooperatives National Council, also expressed this opinion at the recent session of the council's presidium.

Is the Situation Overstrained? [subhead]

There is a lot to worry about. The production cooperatives are not simply economic organizations: They are much more than that. In addition to production, their activities have a considerable effect on the lives of the communities in the area of their economic activities. In

many villages, the existence of running water, the introduction of gas which makes life easier, and an improvement in the state of supplies were all established as a result of the cooperatives' efforts. In many places money from the cooperatives is also behind widening cultural opportunities and improving health services. No sports activities, for example, would exist in certain communities without the cooperatives' support in terms of products and money. And we have not yet said anything about their most important contribution: the creation of jobs. Many cooperative managers did almost everything to provide women who want to work—or have to work—with a job that is as clean as possible, that can be learned as easily as possible, that can be counted on for a long period of time, and that will provide some income, however meager it might be.

Is it possible that things were stretched too tight? That is, is it possible that cooperatives went beyond what efficiency requirements permit? Indeed, there were such cases. In certain areas more labor was hired than was permissible and the cooperatives were unable to secure continuous employment for their workers. In some places the uneven standards of different kinds of work also contributed to the fact that cooperatives frequently changed activities and employers. Cooperatives that were prepared for an entrepreneurial venture but were not awakened in time or were left to wake up late, similar to what happened in Borsod, mostly received only the other people's "cast-offs." However, it required an artist's skill to squeeze a larger income out of such ventures.

Then came the period when the number of enterprise workers business partnerships increased. What factory management does not want to help its own workers? Wherever possible, management took back the jobs it had farmed out and preferred to pay its own workers for them.

It is difficult for agricultural enterprises to explore the possibilities of new activities and start action in such circumstances. Setting up a new operation is an expensive matter, and hundreds of thousands of forints have to be sacrificed so that the money will return later, mostly after a period of years. And since the amounts of money that can be spent and invested are constantly decreasing, many cooperatives are unable to try out even some dead-certain bets.

Although there are no final figures for 1987 as yet, the tendencies are already known. Grape production suffered most severe damage: Production decreased by 36 percent. The decrease in fruit crops is considerable too: 11 percent less fruit was picked than expected. Crop growers are also trying to forget 1987 quickly: The yield of cereals lags 4-17 percent behind the planned amount. The performance of animal husbandry in the production cooperatives also decreased; in particular, the quantity of cattle and sheep for slaughter lags behind the desirable level. Despite the increase in procurement prices, there was no increase in the desire to raise hogs, either, which can be explained by low profitability and deterioration in fodder quality.

Their Debts Will Be Suspended [subhead]

The overall profits of the producer cooperatives amount to 16 billion forints, 2 billion forints less than in 1986. At the same time, the decrease in the number of loss-making enterprises and in the amount of the losses is fortunate. There are expected to be no loss-making production cooperatives in Pest, Tolna, Vas, and Veszprem Counties. At present about 40-50 cooperatives can be qualified as constantly stumbling and inefficiently managing their affairs. The solution for them seems to lie in reorganization, by their becoming a professional cooperative, for example.

As early as the beginning of 1987, the National Planning Office made a decision aimed at reducing the burden of debts on large-scale agricultural enterprises that were deeply in debt. Out of the 232 applications from large-scale enterprises, 217 agricultural cooperatives are participating in this program. On the basis of the decision made by the main authority, the conclusion of an agreement with 77 out of 99 economic units is expected this year, and 18 large-scale enterprises have been singled out for reexamination. If the economic organizations are able to implement the goals set out in the agreement successfully, their debts to the country amounting to 320 million forints will be suspended, and canceled as of 1910. Suspending or canceling debts amounting to nearly 1 billion forints, or reorganizing them as basic state subsidies, was made dependent on successful economic management also in the case of bank loans. Within the sphere of their self-management, the Mutual Support Funds of the agricultural cooperatives also contributed to reducing the burden of the debts. These funds have so far suspended cooperative debts amounting to approximately 280 million forints.

In spite of these support activities, which are not insignificant, one can be sure that there will be cooperatives whose creditors will give them no further extension and will force them to the most drastic act of liquidation, an act that could be accompanied by a shock in the life of certain communities. All these things could create further tensions in those provinces that have few industrial enterprises and are struggling with employment difficulties.

NEPSZABADSAG Reviews Readers' Letters

AU191252 Budapest NEPSZABADSAG in Hungarian 11 Jan 88 p 3

[Article by Laszlo Ujlaki: "Our Readers Wrote in 1987"]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] Our readers in 1987 seemed to say that it was painful that incompetent people who had become intellectually "settled" were still holding

quite a few leading positions. It was stated that there was a requirement to get rid of such leaders very quickly and decisively, but humanely. [passage omitted]

Our readers think that housing is an important and decisive factor in the financial situation; young people cannot even dream about it realistically without the assistance of their parents. It is no wonder, therefore, that acceptance of all kinds of extra work and extra burdens by most of the families struggling with such difficulties have reached and often exceeded the socially acceptable level. And while the people concerned cannot even hope for an increase in their real wages, they must reckon all the more with increasing construction expenses. [passage omitted]

Many letters dealt with our economic difficulties in 1987 and, within this, with the organization of work and, among other things, the use that is made of the time spent at work. In connection with the latter, several people stressed that superfluous manpower employed by enterprises has an adverse effect on discipline at work. [passage omitted]

Our mail in 1987 well reflected our readers' interest in international issues and the future of the world, or to formulate this more simply and practically, their anxiety and fear for our future and that of our children, and grandchildren. [passage omitted]

Letters also testify to the extent of the interest with which public opinion follows the fate of the Hungarians that live beyond Hungary's borders. Concrete cases show that the interest and the occasional anxiety are justified. One of our readers, who is concerned about this matter because of close relatives, writes: "Since our compatriots living in Hungary can remain Slovaks, Germans, Romanians, and Yugoslavs because that is how they were born, and since they are able to enjoy their wide national minority rights, we simply wish the same opportunities and rights to be also extended to the Hungarians living beyond Hungary's borders." [passage omitted]

State of Computer Sciences Reviewed

AU191212 Budapest MAGYAR NEMZET in Hungarian 11 Jan 88 p 7

[Article by Dr Szilard Szabo: "The Bit-Corner—What Does the Balance Reveal?"]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] In the last 15 years the development of computer sciences has considerably exceeded the average rate of growth of the Hungarian people's economy. The economic organizations currently own considerably more than 40,000 computers. The fact that Hungarian enterprises and institutions operated almost 20,000 computers in 1985, and approximately 39,000 computers in 1986 reflects the dynamics of the development. These figures show an annual increase of 85 percent and 95 percent [figures as published]. The total value of the computers did not increase so spectacularly; one reason for this is the ongoing decrease in the price of electronic products on the world market, and this was more or less evident in Hungary, too. The stock of computers increased primarily in the area of microcomputers. If those who won the competitive bid for the production of professional personal computers, a bid set out by the National Technological Development Committee, were able to market the promised amount of 4,000 computers, we could even more clearly welcome the changes.

We have less accurate figures on privately-owned computers. An acceptable estimate would set the number of the computer assets of the population at 150-200,000 units. [passage omitted]

According to official data, computer technology provides a living for 25,000 people, and an even better living for an additional 20,000 professionals. The income of professional people who work for small organizations exceeded the incomes of professionals employed by enterprises, cooperatives, and budget institutions by almost 40 percent. A significant acceleration in the mobility of labor is one of the signs of the recent period. Ventures are established one after the other, and the best experts quickly discover how much they are worth.

Hungarian computer technicians have a good reputation in the world. Some 500-600 people regularly work on exports. [passage omitted]

'Entrepreneurs' To Establish Association

AU191200 Budapest MAGYAR HIRLAP in Hungarian 15 Jan 88 pp 1,7

[Correspondent Zoltan Muzslai's report: "Small Entrepreneurs' Association To Be Established—Their Interests Will Not Differ from the Interests of the People's Economy"]

[Excerpts] Association of Small-Scale Entrepreneurs. This will be the name of the new organization expected to be established on 20 February 1988 under the supervision of the Hungarian Economic Chamber. This association is intended to represent the interests of small-scale entrepreneurs, interests that are currently considerably differentiated mainly between the National Organization of Artisans and the National Federation of Artisan Cooperatives. We are talking here about a considerable number of people: more than 500,000 operating—mainly as a second job—in almost 2,000 small-scale cooperatives, 12,000 workers' business partnerships, 13,000 professional groups, and some 150,000 operating with individual trade licenses. [passage omitted]

The program of the newly established organization will primarily provide information about new regulations and analyze and pass on information acquired from

members in connection with these issues. The new organization should also recognize the small-scale entrepreneurs' long-term interests. [passage omitted]

According to the draft statute, the new association will be able to establish advisory services for business ventures and enterprises with management tasks, in harmony with the demands of private entrepreneurs. [passage omitted]

Steps Taken To Found Homosexual' Association

AU191325 Budapest MAGYAR HIRLAP in Hungarian 16 Jan 88 p 7

[Report by correspondent Esztger Legradi: "The Concept Still Needs To Be Refined—Homosexuals in A National Association?"]

[Excerpts] At present, 3-5 percent of the world population can be considered homosexual and this proportion seems to be plausible for the Hungarian population too. On 27 October 1987, the Hungarian homosexuals submitted a formal request to the former Health Ministry to establish an association. The request contains the goals of a national association and the fundamental areas of planned activity. This represents a formal presentation of intentions to which, in accordance with regulations, the body that supervises legality has to react. (It must give either a positive or a negative answer.) Before answering the request, this supervisor has to consult several partner authorities, for example, the Interior Ministry. [passage omitted]

What is the status of the request today? The Ministry of Social and Health Affairs accepts responsibility for the creation and later legal supervision of this self-managed organization. The Ministry makes it possible for this organization to be legally established and to continue its activity legally. There are still important steps to be taken. Thus, there must be coordination between the various authorities involved and the organizers must be given a positive answer; the statute of the new organization must be drawn up and a founding meeting convened and held; then, the new association has to be registered. All this can be done in 2-3 months and is no longer primarily the task of the Ministry of Social and Health Affairs. The organizers of the new association have to do most of this work themselves. [passage omitted]

Industry Minister Leaves for CEMA Meeting

LD191158 Budapest MTI in English 0955 GMT 19 Jan 88

[Text] Budapest, January 19 (MTI)—On Tuesday Frigyes Berecz, Hungarian minister of industry, left for Moscow at the head of a delegation to attend the founding session of the electronization cooperation committee of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance. The session is to coordinate the statutes regulating the scope of activity and decision of the committee and draw up the work schedule for 1988-1989.

Urban Holds Weekly Press Conference

LD192257 Warsaw PAP in English
1728 GMT 19 Jan 88

[By Leszek Kubiak, Janusz Dworecki]

[Text] Warsaw, Jan 19—At his today's press conference Government Spokesman Minister Jerzy Urban answered a number of questions asked by foreign [passage indistinct]. Without Poland's fault there was a regression in our relations in the first half of the 1980s. Despite their recent improvement, their present level does not correspond to the actual needs and possibilities. Talks with Minister Genscher have shown that the advancement of relations, whose inviolable basis is the treaty of December 1970, does not corespond also to the desires and intentions of societies and governments of both countries. We hope, that the visit of Minister Genscher has initiated intensive efforts to make a breakthrough in our relations. At the same time—as Wojciech Jaruzelski termed it—the declarations of political goodwill to develop cooperation are poured with a ladle, while the economic foundation of coexistence is being measured with a dropper.

Poland's trade with its biggest creditor has recently decreased which is neither in the interest of the debtor nor in the interest of the side wishing to collect. Mutual relations also require greater harmony between words and deeds and between the political-cultural matter and the economic realities, Urban told the conference.

A return visit by Minister Orzechowski to Bonn has been envisaged to take place perhaps within several months from now.

It follows from the talks with Minister Genscher that already this year a visit of Chancellor Kohl to Poland may become real. The point is to fill that time with measurable and concrete moves. Then, the Polish visit of FRG Chancellor would not have a ceremonial but a deeply matter-of-fact sense, it would be a breakthrough-making fact in the cause of joint, positive attainments in the field of normalization and all-round development in mutual relations.

All in all, we assess the visit positively as pregnant with good chances and filled with the right intentions and initiatives. At this moment all depends on whether the agreed road to improvement and development of relations will be filled with concrete substance, Urban told the journalists.

When asked if a substitute military service will be possible in Poland for these who do not want to serve in the Army, Jerzy Urban said that such possibilities would be created. Military authorities forwarded a proposal of a substitute military service twice as long as the period of the regular military service. The spokesman stressed that in Poland law was not retroactive. However, when passing a sentence, the court can consider various circumstances. The government press spokesman ruled out the legalization of an illegal organization "Freedom and Peace", adding that this is a political organization hitting out at Poland's defences.

Polish-Soviet Economic Relations: [Subhead]

Minister Urban said the following on this subject:

About one third of Poland's trade with abroad accounts for the USSR. Intermediate and raw materials account for about 70 percent of imports from the USSR.

The imports are conducted in clearing, which is the most beneficial variant of ties in Poland's present difficult payment situation.

These advantages stem also from the structure of Polish exports in which products of the processing industry and building services account for over 80 per cent of total supplies.

Last year, mutual deliveries of raw materials, apart from some difficulties in the exports of Polish coal, proceeded well. We did not fully meet obligations and changed the assortment. Under the pressure of Poland's domestic needs, we created difficulties for the Soviet economy and the population of some regions of the Soviet Union, and I regret this. There were also disturbances in electricity imports. Polish deliveries of sulphur were implemented ahead of schedule and the same was true as regards Soviet supplies of oil and gas.

Foreign Ministry Spokesman [subhead]

In reply to the next question Urban admitted that he knew that such a spokesman was to be appointed, adding that the fact would certainly not make the government press spokesman redundant.

Polish-Soviet Commission's Meeting [subhead]

Asked about the meeting of the Polish-Soviet commission dealing with the history of relations between both countries, which was to be held last week, Urban said that the meeting had not been held because of the Soviet group's chairman's influenza and illnesses of the group's members.

Ciosek as PRON General Secretary [subhead]

Asked why a PUWP CC secretary was elected the general secretary of the Patriotic Movement for National Rebirth (PRON), Urban stated:

The candidacy of PUWP CC Secretary Stanislaw Ciosek for the PRON general secretary is the common candidacy of all PRON signatories, forwarded by the commission for cooperation between the PUWP and other political parties. What was taken into consideration in

this case were many years' experiences in the political work, and particularly the conciliation and negotiation abilities of the politician, his deep commitment to reforms and the process of the national agreement and also the experience ensuing from, among other things, the membership in the Government-Episcopate joint commission.

German Minority [subhead]

Answering a question concerning the German minority in this country, Urban said, among other things:

Some in the FRG state that there is a German national minority in Poland which exceeds a million people. This is absurd. The German minority disappeared in step with successive waves of departures: immediately after the war when the national self-definition process took place, later, during the departures wave in the 70's and during subsequent family reunifications. At present a society grouping 120 Germans is active in Walbrzych. If now some Poles, after the decades of their being Poles, and who in general do not know German, search for German ancestors or volksdeutsche in their families, this mainly ensues from other reasons than a true feeling of the German national identity. It is known that some Poles would like to leave for the West in search of better wages in hard currency. The only open channel is the FRG with its principle of granting permission for permanent residence to persons regarded to be of German origin or the ones regarded as coming from former lands of the German Reich.

Division of Pomeranian Bay Waters [subhead]

Asked about new developments in this matter, Urban answered:

The Polish authorities once presented their stand to the GDR authorities. Bilateral talks and replies to Polish reasons and arguments are expected soon.

In connection with the previous questions I explain that the border line of the anchorage no. 2 in the Pomeranian Bay was temporarily changed last summer because of the dredging work. On August 1, 1987, the previous border was restored and nothing has changed in this respect.

Expected Disclosure of Names of "KRYTYKA" [subhead]

When asked about the reaction to disclosing these names, Urban said:

The reaction to the disclosure of the names of editors of a publication appearing in a way contradicting the regulations on publishing issues will be in tune with appropriate laws, for instance, the law on misdemeanors, the press law, the law on the control of publications and entertainments. It is the business of proper organs which regulations will be applied.

I think that this is an advertising trick as the so-called second circulation suffers ever more from the lack of ideas, topics and readers, which is admitted by editors themselves of such publications. The persons aware of the illegal "KRYTYKA" (are probably so few that they) can be put into a single city bus without a trailer. Therefore, every trick is good to ensure for oneself the interest of at least the Western press and an entirely certain broadcast of the Radio Free Europe.

Bringing Back the Ashes of Poland's Last King: [subhead]

When asked about the possibilities of bringing back the ashes of King Stanislaw August Poniatowski to Poland, Minister Urban said that this was a personal ambition of Culture Minister Aleksander Krawczuk and it is shared personally by the press spokesman. However, it is difficult to find the ashes as a result of war destructions. Letter by Jan Karnatowski: [subhead]

Minister Urban said also that he had received a letter from Mr. Jan Karnatowski who portrays himself as representative of a group of activists of the former Solidarnosc and, as he terms this, democratic opposition—refugees who recently left for Italy.

Mr. Jan Karnatowski insults Polish authorities and me in particular. He reports on dramatic living conditions in which refugees live a wretched life in exile and writes this to me:

"Exert your intellect, use your influence and try to arrange assistance for those for whom you so hypocritically feel sorry. After all, you can supply them with blankets, sleeping bags and tents necessary for them for the winter period.

"I address this report to you as an open letter, notifying all editorial staffs and Polish language radio stations in the West so that you could not ignore my report insilence. I impatiently wait for the publication of this letter and for worldwide responses to this publication".

Under such blackmail, I announce the letter although I doubt it could draw responses worldwide. I think that proper organizations: the Polish Red Cross, the Polish Committee for Social Assistance and the Polonia Society for Liaison with Poles Abroad should study the needs and extend as far as possible proper and swift assistance to our fellow-countrymen who stayed abroad, Urban commented on the letter.

Replying to one of the last questions about why the Polish press reported on the presence of 6 Nobel prize winners in Auschwitz, ignoring the name of the Polish Nobel Prize winner, Minister Urban said:

The Polish press did not mention the names of Noble prize winners who had come to Auschwitz to pay tribute to the murdered. As far as I recall press reports, they

mentioned only Elie Wiesel who was the spiritus movens of this ceremony. As regards the Western press, I had a feeling of disgust studying reports in which the site of such great gravity and such enormous crimes was used for some petty political games.

Replying to questions, the government spokesman referred to an incident at a Wroclaw laboratory.

"It resulted," he said, "from a spillage of radioactive substance which was a component of smoke detection sensors, as I understand it, in some fire-fighting equipment. Having tested the laboratory workers doctors decided that there had been no hazardous exposure to radiation. Work was suspended there, and appropriate deactivation operations were instigated. The case is being investigated, but it was mere self-spillage, or spillage following someone's action, of components of radioactivity sensors, and the effects, fortunately, pose no danger to humans."

Entry Visa for Demjanjuk's Lawyer Refused

AU191658 Warsaw ZYCIE WARSZAWY in Polish 14 Jan 88 p 6

[Text] PAP—Israeli lawyer Yoram Sheftel, who is helping the U.S. lawyers to defend Hitlerite criminal Ivan Demjanjuk now on trial in Jerusalem, has publicly protested the decision to refuse him an entry visa into Poland. He has alleged that this refusal is an attempt to cut off the defending lawyers from the evidence that is important for their arguments.

Kazimierz Kakol, head of the Main Commission for Hitlerite Crimes in Poland, made the following statement in this connection: Our commission's archives are wide open for examination in line with international rules. Naturally, the documents to be consulted for judicial or scientific purposes can be copied, processed, and analyzed.

Demjanjuk's U.S. defending lawyers have had overextensive opportunities to consult those documents directly or indirectly. Many times during their visits to Poland they have collected judicial evidence in a manner that has caused us to have reservations. The fact that our reservations regarding the form and style of building up defense were right was confirmed by the fact that Demjanjuk asked his lawyer O'Connor, who continued to shock the participants and observers of the trial with his "cowboy" manners, not to represent him any longer.

Demjanjuk's two U.S. defense lawyers (Gill and Chumak) visited Poland a few weeks ago to collect evidence. Gill's new application for an entry visa was refused because he was supposed to accompany John Demjanjuk, a son of Ivan who is on trial in Jerusalem, on a "tourist" trip to Poland. The "tourist" Demjanjuk traveling in the footsteps of his father's crimes is an insult to the victims of these crimes. The visas for Demjanjuk and Gill were rightly refused, because reasons given in their applications were obviously false.

Israeli lawyer Sheftel, who imitates the style of his U.S. colleagues, has commented on his visa troubles just as vociferously as senselessly. "Those quislings," he said, "are trying to prevent me from unmasking a slander." This attorney at law certainly knows who can be called a quisling. That is why he should also know that this ignominious label cannot be pinned on Poles and Poland, because Poland was the only nation in occupied Europe that produced no quisling.

The Main Commission for Hitlerite Crimes in Poland will insist on refusing an entry visa for Sheftel.

Communique Issued on PZPR Politburo Session

AU191810 Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish 14 Jan 88 pp 1, 2

[PAP headline—"PZPR Central Committee Politburo Session Communique"]

[Text] PAP—12 January. The PZPR Central Committee Politburo acquainted itself with the state of work on the modifications to the program for the second stage of the reform that were prepared following the referendum. The essence of these modifications is that they take account of public opinion concerning how extensive and radical the measures to be implemented should be. In addition, the program has been expanded and enriched by the inclusion of instruments for, inter alia, accelerating the increase in the production of consumer goods and the provision of services, which was something that was heavily emphasized during the course of the public debate.

The modifications to the program for the reform's second stage also cover changes in the housing construction field. This, it was stressed, was a very important addition. This is all the more true because new and unconventional measures are to be employed. They comprise a varied group, ranging from temporary preliminary measures to institutional changes that should make it possible to gradually surmount housing problems.

The Politburo was positive in its appraisal of proposed modifications to the investment program. They will help to accelerate the introduction of structural changes in the economy. It will be possible to obtain results that should strengthen market equilibrium over the next few years. The proposed undertakings must be enriched with a view toward encouraging workplace initiatives. The regional administration and services sector should work just as energetically and take various steps that will make it easier to solve many problems that continue to trouble society.

The Politburo decided that following the introduction of the necessary modifications, the stage of research and discussion should be speedily completed and concrete steps should be taken. The Central Annual Plan for 1988 adopted by the government should create suitable conditions for this to take place.

The party will provide strong support for the implementation of the reform's second stage. Primary organizations, guided by the decisions contained in the sixth plenum resolution, should work actively at accomplishing the difficult tasks contained in the program. This is synonymous with all party members being vigorously involved in explaining the essence and scale of changes and providing resolute support for all actions that assist these changes. Party members have a duty to be consistent in striving for more managerial efficiency, higher standards of work, greater labor discipline, combatting false ideas of income equality, and preventing income from being not earned through work but through some dishonest manner. Members of the party working in various social bodies, particularly in the trade union movement and on self-management bodies, should consistently strive to make the public understand the party policy of reforms.

The Politburo recommended that enterprises be quickly provided with information on the new economic parameters and mechanisms that are necessary for the formulation of production plans for 1988.

The Politburo deemed it essential that there be meetings between the heads of the reformed ministries and representatives of enterprises during which explanations will be provided for measures contained in the second stage of the reform, the goals of the Central Annual Plan and ways of implementing it, as well as the principles according to which the reorganized central institutions operate.

The Politburo recommended that information be published about the main elements contained in the modified program and that it will clearly describe the most important decisions.

The Politburo listened to opinions and suggestions stemming from the visits paid by members of the party leadership to work places over the last few weeks. The main subjects discussed were: the use of group forms of labor organization as well as innovation and the movement for greater efficiency among employees.

The Politburo positively appraised experience with partnership labor brigades and other forms of group labor organization. They can play an important role in improving managerial efficiency and can provide important social benefits.

The implementation of the principles of the economic reform's second stage should create conditions that will be conducive to the expansion of group forms of labor organization. The economic system, particularly the wages system, should ensure the profitability of high levels of efficiency in enterprises as a whole, in individual enterprise departments, among groups of employees, and in every job. Privileges that do not guarantee that wages are linked to economic efficiency should be eliminated.

The Politburo stated that enterprises should enjoy more freedom in the distribution of the resources that they have earned. This calls for appropriate changes to the labor code, collective agreements, and workplace wages systems. They should create appropriate incentives—that will affect the managerial cadre as well—for raising standards of efficiency and should compel enterprises to introduce technical and organizational innovations and in doing so make it easier to expand group forms of labor organization.

The Politburo stressed that this was a question that should, to a greater extent than before, interest enterprise employee self-management organs. Groups forms of labor organization strengthen the standing of self-management bodies and introduce the idea of self-management at a lower level within the enterprise. The introduction of such forms should inspire and draw resolute support from party and youth organizations, trade unions, and socioprofessional associations.

The Politburo ruled that group forms of work organization be taken advantage of and assigned a major role in the implementation of the second stage of the economic reform.

Such forms of work organization involve a transfer of responsibility directly to each work post, increased productivity, and greater moral and material satisfaction for each employee. This fully concurs with the line of democratization and reforms.

Positive changes are occurring, though still unsatisfactory on a national economic scale—that was the Politburo's conclusion about inventiveness by workers and factory rationalization programs. Many plants may pride themselves on their achievements, but the situation in many others with a similar potential and similar technological-production conditions is still very differentiated. Therefore, the national results in this sphere are the product of huge achievements by some economic units and weak results by others.

The main obstacles to greater inventiveness and rationalization lie not in existing legislation, but in poor organization, insufficient factory incentives, low interest in scientific-technological progress by factories, and a passive attitude by economic managements and workers' self-management bodies. In many enterprises and scientific research institutions, the conditions necessary to develop inventiveness and make economic use of it have still not been created. Cells, which would cooperate with inventors and provide them with the necessary help, have not been organized. Employees who are interested

in inventiveness and rationalization are receiving too little encouragement; production orders stemming from earlier technological improvements are directed to others instead of them. Proposals on improvements inside an enterprise are hampered by a faulty layout of assessments of these proposals and faulty publicity.

Some factories continue to tolerate an atmosphere of jealousy toward people with an inventive talent and suspicion that they wish to reap unjustified advantages from it. The Politburo asks party organizations in enterprises and technical centers to give maximum support to inventive and rationalizing activities and to facilitate the full exploitation of the knowledge and skills, and technical and rationalizing cadres.

Observation and talks in enterprises, analytical materials, and statistics tell us that the exploitation of our machines, which are often up to date, and of the potential of our engineers, technicians, and workers is not adequate to our needs.

More goods and services will be the decisive factor in balancing our economy during the second stage of the reform. But these must not be shoddy goods. The technological and qualitative progress in production and the better management with fixed assets will be of decisive significance for the success of the reform.

There must be a flow of resources, technological ideas, and cadres between science, practice, branches of production, and enterprises so we are able to optimally exploit the best we have.

We should focus our efforts on areas in which progress can be the fastest, and most desirable.

The Politburo will again soon discuss issues of broad technological-organizational progress and the party's tasks in it. The Politburo discussed the practical application of the principles of cadre policy and noted that this application differs greatly from place to place, despite some positive changes. Nevertheless, the decisions made in this connection by the 10th Congress and the Politburo have triggered many new initiatives. The share of nonparty people in the supreme authorities of the state and in the leading staffs of state and economic administration has increased rather distinctly. PRON bodies will obtain a greater influence on cadre policy. The necessary proposals, which respond to society's expectations, have already been drawn up.

The replacements of cadres to enable new generations to take over have been intensified in the past few years, and younger people continue to be more extensively promoted to various managerial posts. For example, in construction trades young people are in the overwhelming majority in supervisory and intermediate managerial posts.

However, there is no reason to be satisfied with our present achievements. The party must become the driving force in promoting a modern approach to the issue of cadres. The PZPR must ensure that enterprises, offices, and institutions give the necessary thought to the cadre policy that meets the needs of "today and tomorrow." It is necessary to create opportunities for quick promotion for really talented, educated, and enterprising young workers. The requirements one must meet for promotion must be clearly defined at every level.

The Politburo noted that accelerating the speed with which young cadres can be promoted calls for more radical activities by party cells and organizations, state bodies, enterprises, and social organizations. In particular, it is necessary to implement special programs for promoting young employees in ministries, central and local offices, and production enterprises.

The Politburo drew attention to the fact that there is still no program for accelerating the development of scientific cadres, especially in the sectors that are of key significance for the country's future. The Politburo noted that the production of the government document that deals with the conditions for the careers of prominent university graduates continues to be delayed.

Despite various instructions and proposals, the number of women in managerial positions continues to decrease. Promotion for women stops at lower and intermediate levels and rarely advances to higher levels.

It is mainly the positions of managers of industrial enterprises that are filled in through competition, but, in line with the 10th party congress decisions, competition should also be used in filling other managerial positions. Competition should be used as a universal form of promotion, one that really opens prospects for the best people, regardless of their age and party membership.

The Politburo noted with anxiety that some primary party organizations are still unable to find their place in the implementation of cadre policy in enterprises, offices, and institutions and to correctly use their statutory powers.

The Politburo noted that the organization and exploitation of cadre reserves and the planned flow of cadres between individual sectors of social life are also the weaker points of cadre policy.

The Politburo criticized the still frequent bad personal decisions and the promotion of persons who fail to measure up to regulation requirements.

Cadre errors should be quickly rectified. Persons who fail to meet expectations and to cope with their appointed tasks should be dismissed. In evaluating the efficiency of cadres it is necessary to more often apply comparative criteria supplied by similar enterprises, offices, voivodships, and gminas.

The Politburo stressed most strongly the responsibility of party echelons and organizations and of state bodies for properly observing the PZPR cadre policy principles. These echelons, organizations, and bodies must be more resolute and consistent in observing these principles when selecting candidates for managerial posts and when evaluating the civic and moral attitudes and performance results of party and nonparty chiefs at every level.

Adopting the programmatic-organizational assumptions of the PZPR seventh plenum, the Politburo stressed that it would create good opportunities to determine how to best exploit the qualifications and talents of cadres, to eliminate all difficulties, and to attract valuable candidates for posts.

The seventh plenum will primarily evaluate the effectiveness of the mechanisms through which managing cadres are selected and improved and will define the role of the human factor in the process of reforming the economy and democratizing sociopolitical life. The effectiveness of PZPR cadre policy and reasons for its present weaknesses and deformations in practice will be comprehensively analyzed. The principles of cadre policy will be adjusted to the country's new sociopolitical and economic conditions.

The Politburo studied the course of the meeting between W. Jaruzelski and the activists of the Social Committee for the Fight Against Alcohol Abuse and examined the results of the committee's work in line with the law on training one in sobriety and on combatting alcoholism and in line with other criteria.

The Politburo gave its backing to the plans contained in the resolution adopted by the sixth congress of the committee.

The committee's work plays an important role in promoting the sobriety movement. The Politburo noted that the committee's various countrywide activities deserve praise. These activities include legal and psychological advice, lectures, movie shows, recreation, cultural functions, appropriate publications, and comprehensive assistance for alcoholic persons and their dependents.

The decisions made by the Politburo on 28 July 1987 constitute an essential strengthening of the social anti-alcohol movement. Extending the social front of struggle against alcoholism and using the most effective methods are the joint target of all social forces, the party and state authorities, the Catholic Church, and the religious communities. The Politburo appealed to the government to ensure that appropriate proposals are consistently implemented.

PZPR Politburo Discusses Economic Reform

LD192038 Warsaw Television Service in Polish 1830 GMT 19 Jan 88

[Text] The PZPR Central Committee Politburo has met. The problems linked with the introduction of the economic solutions of the second stage of the reform were discussed. Particular attention was paid to the implementation of tasks planned for the immediate future and to regular information being given to the public about this implementation. Politburo members acquainted themselves with the trade unions' stance on the prices and incomes policy and the government's attitude to the opinions and postulates put forward. It was seen as vital to adopt solutions which would guarantee a cohesion of the mechanisms being restructured and a more rapid development of the economy.

In the next point on the agenda, there was discussion of the achievements of Polish foreign policy last year, and its main targets in the current year were examined. The basic directions of international activity were approved. Current problems of economic cooperation with abroad, including the implementation of tasks emerging from the coordination of plans between Poland and the CEMA countries up to 1990, were also discussed at the meeting. Politburo members acquainted themselves with the assumptions of the amendments to the people's councils and local self-government system act.

Delegates Attend First 'Homeless Congress'

AU191308 Vienna NEUE KRONEN-ZEITUNG in German 18 Jan 88 p 2

[Text] The first "Homeless Congress" took place in Poland. At the event, which was unprecedented in the East Bloc, 600 delegates discussed the scandalous fact that 40 years after the end of the war, 3 million, mostly young married, Poles have to wait up to 20 years for an apartment!

Commentary Discusses 'Binding' Public Opinion

LD200325 Warsaw PAP in English 1931 GMT 19 Jan 88

["Binding Character of Public Opinion"—PAP headline; (by PAP economic commentator Janusz Kotarski)]

[Text] Warsaw, Jan. 19—The Council of Ministers sent to Sejm amendments to the implementation program of the reform on Monday.

The spreading over two-three years of the process of achieving equilibrium prices, which is the direct influence of the referendum's results, is accompanied by the supply stimulation-oriented package of additions in the modified program. The opinions of Sejm deputies and trade unions have been oriented in this direction. Equally important is also the introduction of changes aimed at securing more proper and effective social shield for economically weakest groups.

The intention of the government's amendments was undoubtedly the recognition of the public attitude towards the problem of shaping prices and incomes as significant and binding. The amendments also reflect the search for the possibilities of approaching economic

balance through greater economic efficiency, releasing enterprise and effectiveness, launching the still existing reserves to stimulate production and supply.

The main lines of modification fully confirm the thesis on the binding treatment of social consultation. To what extent the modifications will pass the test of life depends above all on the effectiveness of solutions stimulating production. At present this effectiveness is reduced by the spreading in time of the process of balancing the economy.

OPZZ's Miodowicz Speaks at Steel Mill Meeting

LD152221 Warsaw PAP in English
2124 GMT 15 Jan 88

[Text] Krakow, Jan. 15—Poland's economic problems, concepts of reforming the economy, questions of the financial situation of the working people were the subject of discussion held at the Lenin steel mill near here today with the participation of Chairman of the All-Poland Alliance of Trade Unions (OPZZ) Alfred Miodowicz.

Discussing the OPZZ stand on the 1988 income and price policy, Miodowicz said that the stand stemmed from views of working people and opinions of trade union organizations in factories throughout Poland. The view expressed by us seems to be a rational approach as, which cannot be concealed, it warns the government of the phenomenon of a price spiral getting out of control.

We additionally said we would carry out an in-depth assessment of the situation and adopt a stand by the OPZZ Council in half a year, Miodowicz also said. At the same time we hope that the nightmare of inflation will be limited in the future and actions stimulating supply would be stepped up. These are such steps that will encourage better and more productive work. A decent wage is primarily the main factor in this respect and all others can perform only auxiliary functions.

We are, the OPZZ chairman said, firmly against limiting wages, for instance, by setting down wage thresholds expressed in percentage terms and by personal taxes. We are against exempting some economic sectors from these tax systems such as was the case, for instance, last year when the 12-per cent limit did not apply to non-socialized non-agricultural production sector. Reductions or exemptions of this kind led in 1987 to widening the gap between incomes in the socialized and the non-socialized non-agricultural sectors of economy.

Commercial Banks To Organize Network

LD161500 Warsaw PAP Maritime Press Service in Polish 1200 GMT 16 Jan 88

[Text] [no dateline as received] At a press conference, W. Baka [president of National Bank of Poland] announced that a network of commercial banks located in large cities will be organized. They will be in competition with each other, and enterprises will be assured a free choice of bank. Last year, the inflation rate stood at around 27 percent, and the estimate for this year is about 43 percent.

POLITYKA Cites Press on Domestic Issues

AU190956 Warsaw POLITYKA in Polish
9 Jan 88 p 2

[From the press review]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] TYGODNIK CHELMSKI on 19-26 December published an interview with Stefan Lyczak, first secretary of the Chelm Voivodship Committee of the PZPR, by Witold Grabowski. Here is an excerpt from it:

[Lyczak] I think that we should ensure free dealings with farm lands so as to create larger farms. We continue to ponder whether it is worth treating land as a commodity. We regard land with great solicitude and with the conviction that land is a great asset, but the thing is that at present a hectare of land is far less expensive that a good radio receiver. He who wants to buy a radio receiver does not have to fill in application forms, to sign contracts, and to visit a notary. On the other hand, land transactions are hedged with various regulations, and it is really a clerk who decides who can buy land. However, I think that the market should decide such issues. Perhaps we should ask prospective buyers to submit tenders for land? The people who buy land want to make it pay, and that is why they take care to ensure that their lands are productive. No one should be given preferential treatment. Wherever it is necessary, socialized farms should be organized, but I think that land cannot bear politics and ideology. Land has to produce food for the nation.

KONFRONTACJE of January 1988 published the following statement by Maciej Letowski, deputy chief editor of LAD:

The diagnosis of the present situation is rather pessimistic: A conservative elite of power supported by conservative segments of our people and by naturally conservative bureaucracy was organized at the beginning of the eighties. In this situation the attempts made by the few reformers who are in the elite of power are remote from the expectations and aspirations of quantitatively and qualitatively significant segment of our people—15 to 25 percent of adults, mostly young, who are university graduates, skilled workers, and inhabitants of highly industrialized conurbations.

If nothing changes in the near future, we will inevitably continue to make small steps toward a big crisis.

ZWIAZKOWIEC published the transcript of the INTERPRESS press conference with Alfred Miodowicz, chairman of the OPZZ. Here is an excerpt from it:

[Question] Is it possible that the implementation of the radical alternative of the economic reform providing for the published price hikes could induce the work forces to protest and even to strike?

[Miodowicz] I am convinced that if the radical alternative of the reform had been introduced, the street would begin to ferment. Such ferments assume various forms, and it is difficult to predict whether they would fizzle out in the Marszalkowska street [in Warsaw] or would spill all over the country.

NOWOSCI on 30 December published an interview with Professor Dr Jan Bogusz, head of the Institute for Research Into Young People's Problems, by Janusz Krawczyk. Here is an excerpt from it:

[Krawczyk] Who wants to leave Poland and why?

[Bogusz] Some 50.5 percent of the young people questioned by our institute want to leave the country for economic reasons. They include 48.1 percent of the intelligentsia offspring, 47.4 percent of the worker offspring, and 4.5 percent of the peasant offspring. Some 12 percent of the respondents want to emigrate for ideological-political reasons, and most of them (56.8 percent) hail from intelligentsia and partially from worker homes and are students in technical schools. No respondent hailing from peasantry put forward such reasons, which are chiefly characteristic of young people hailing from large conurbations.

Minister Predicts Farm Income To Rise
LD152349 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish
2200 GMT 15 Jan 88

[Text] At the same time as the introduction of changes in prices of means for agricultural production there will be changes this year in the procurement prices of agricultural produce and changes in the retail prices of food. Farms will be compensated for rises in the production costs for which they are not responsible and, for the first time, also for the rise in the costs of the upkeep of farming families. This information was given by Stanislaw Zieba [Minister of Agriculture, Forestry, and Food Economy] during a meeting of Deputy voivodas which has opened in Radzikowo.

The minister stressed that this would improve the ratio between the income of the agricultural community and that of the nonagricultural population.

During the discussion, the participants spoke of the problems, mainly the problems of the food market. They pointed out the shortage of means for plant protection and of fertilizers and were especially critical of the supply of diesel oil to agriculture.

Wroclaw Laboratory Radioactive Leak Contained
LD192210 Warsaw PAP in English
1718 GMT 18 Jan 88

[Text] Warsaw, Jan 18—The central radiological protection laboratory CLOR has said that radioactive contamination was reported in a nuclear technology application laboratory "Polon" in Wroclaw. The contamination was caused by damage in the isotope-containing smoke detectors being repaired and selected. Local contamination in the corridor and a number of rooms probably resulted from the negligence of a "Polon" worker doing his job.

A CLOR team left for Wroclaw immediately after the report, contained the leak and did the cleanup. All the rooms which might have been affected are now thoroughly examined. The contamination is local and its size does not pose any danger to the health of the people, CLOR Director Tadeusz Rzymkowski told PAP. To be on the safe side, however, all persons who might have had any contact with the contamination will be examined, he added.

Messner Addresses Education Experts
LD152031 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish
1900 GMT 15 Jan 88

[Text] The main directions in the activities of the Ministry of National Education were discussed during debates of education and upbringing superintendents and of rectors of higher schools. The meeting took place in the offices of the Council of Ministers.

During the discussion participants drew attention to the problems connected with the management of education at the elementary level and also such matters as improving the training of teachers, investments in education, or the better use which could be made of a school's potential in work which would benefit the economy.

Referring to matters which had been touched upon during the debates, Premier Zbigniew Messner emphasized the importance of speeding up the work of the Committee of Experts which is elaborating the main directions of education. He also declared the government's full support and help in this area.

Gwiazda Compares 1987-88 Foreign Trade
AU191205 Warsaw RZECZPOSPOLITA
in Polish 16-17 Jan 88 p 1

[Unattributed report: "RZECZPOSPOLITA Asks Ministers: 'What Was 1987 Like, And What About 1988?'—Wladyslaw Gwiazda, minister of Foreign Economic Cooperation"]

[Text] [Gwiazda] For foreign trade, last year was a period of forming and improving the economic and organizational conditions necessary to stimulate exports and trade in general.

We formed the foundations of a system which, on the one hand, will bring our economy closer into line with international conditions, and on the other hand is meant to encourage domestic producers to have contacts with the world. We have noted a greater interest in exports, which is the result of effective economic-financial relations and correct policy in this sphere.

The year 1987 saw no breakthrough concerning the size of exports. Preliminary data on trade with countries of the first area of payments indicates that exports and imports were balanced, with the exception of trade with the Soviet Union, in which the trade deficit was greater than planned. As far as quality and modernity are concerned, our economy must adapt to the requirements of the socialist partners.

There was a certain increase in trade with convertible currency partners. This enabled us to increase imports, with a general trade surplus of around $1.3 billion.

One must point out a major event last year—the restructuring of the center and the new position in state affairs occupied by foreign economic cooperation, including trade. During this period, Poland's economic credibility on the international arena increased, and our country gained prestige and a reputation as a solid trade partner. This is illustrated by the progressing normalization of economic and financial relations with our partners and with international organizations, following the positive assessments made of our economic reform and greater interest in economic cooperation with Poland.

This year we expect that exports to the first area of payments will rise by about 7.2 to 8 percent, and to remaining countries by 5.2 percent. The dollar trade surplus is to be maintained. We will sell more electrical goods and agricultural produce abroad. Exports of raw and other materials will be reduced.

We will continue our efforts to develop exports and make them more profitable and attractive. We will also continue to shape economic mechanisms that provide economic incentives for participation in the international division of labor and for the procedures' commitment to exports. Of course this will take time.

Poland's increased and better cooperation with the CEMA countries will occupy a major part of my ministry's work. We will encourage a better use of new forms of cooperation, including direct cooperation between enterprises and joint economic mechanisms. Although preliminary results in this sphere are still modest, they fill us with optimism.

We expect foreign partners to be more interested in capital investments in Poland in 1988. That is why we are proposing more favorable conditions for cooperation and investment in our country.

The tasks schedule imposed on my ministry by the program of implementing the second stage of the economic reform is lengthy and hectic. The completion of these tasks, in other words attaining a pro-exports orientation by our economy, will require cooperation between all economic sectors, as well as a smooth and cohesive functioning of financial mechanisms in the entire economy.

The attainment of Polish foreign trade objectives will also largely depend on energetic outside support by international economic and financial institutions and on a complete normalization of contacts with our trade partners.

Seminar With Soviets Studies Nuclear Reactors

AU151134 Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish 13 Jan 88 p 2

[Text] PAP—A 5-day seminar by Polish and Soviet specialists on the subject of high-temperature nuclear reactors commenced at the Institute of Nuclear Energy at Swierk, near Warsaw, on 12 January.

High-temperature reactors rule out the possibility of danger to the environment even in the case of a failure of safety systems and human error. The high level of safety allows them to be situated near inhabited areas. (as close as 400 meters according to American norms).

Among other things, the seminar is examining the possibility of cooperation between, on the one hand, the Kurchatov Institute of Nuclear Energy in Moscow and Institute of Nuclear Energy belonging to the Academy of Sciences of the Byelorussian SSR in Minsk, and on the other hand the Institute of Nuclear Energy in Swierk and Institute of Nuclear Physics in Krakow.

Malinowski Leads Debate on Gorbachev Agenda

LD152030 Warsaw PAP in English 1918 GMT 15 Jan 88

[Text] Warsaw, Jan 15—On the 2nd anniversary of the announcement of Mikhail Gorbachev's programme of complete and global liquidation of nuclear weapon till 2000, activists of the Polish peace movement and representatives of social organizations met at the Sejm here today.

While opening the debate, Sejm Speaker Roman Malinowski said that Mikhail Gorbachev's initiative was an important contribution to confidence-building and security in the world and that it won popularity among the international community. The speaker also underlined the significance of the Soviet peace programme for the building of security in Europe.

The discussants stressed that ideas contained in the programme of freeing mankind of nuclear weapon had taken on more realistic shape in the recent years. The

Soviet-American disarmament dialogue led to the mapping out of undertakings in the field of limiting the nuclear potentials of the two superpowers. This is of great material and psychological significance for it testifies to the fact that real disarmament is possible. The outcome of the discussion will be presented in a special publication marking the occassion.

Polish Delegate Praises Vienna CSCE

LD152237 Warsaw PAP in English
2055 GMT 15 Jan 88

[Text] Warsaw Jan. 15—Member of the Polish delegation at the Vienna CSCE talks Adam Daniel Rotfeld spoke today at a meeting of the Polish Social Committee of Security and Cooperation in Europe about the influence of the Vienna CSCE meeting on the development of the East-West relations.

He said that the implementation of the CSCE decisions altered the approach to the East-West relations: from confrontation to seeking the possibilities of cooperation between states with different political systems. The Vienna talks also contribute to a relativization [as received] of divisions into antagonistic political and military blocs.

It is possible to speak about cooperation at the Vienna meeting between the blocs and above them. Joint proposals and agreements are made by states with different political systems. An example can be the joint proposal by Poland and Austria to convene a meeting on protection of the European cultural heritage, which won the support of 15 participants in the meeting.

Thus, the Vienna talks favour the democratization of the East-West dialogue and activate the role of neutral states which can be reflected by the Swiss project of an European system of settling international disputes.

Important is also the fact that the Vienna talks cover nearly all the fields of life and aim at long-range settlements, Rotfeld said.

Messner Receives Ambassador to FRG

LD151847 Warsaw PAP in English
1725 GMT 15 Jan 88

[Text] Warsaw, Jan. 15—Poland's Premier Zbigniew Messner received here today Poland's Ambassador to the FRG Ryszard Karski.

PAP Reports on Economic Talks With GDR

LD190240 Warsaw PAP in English
1915 GMT 18 Jan 88

[Text] Warsaw, Jan. 18—Polish-GDR economic talks, attended by vice-chairman of both countries' central planning bodies Stanislaw Dlugosz, Stanislaw Gebala and Dieter Albrecht, were held at the Government Planning Commission here on Monday.

The sides discussed problems of coordination of plans between Poland and the GDR for the years 1991-95 and the current issues of economic, scientific and technological cooperation.

Albrecht was received by vice-premier, Chairman of the Government Planning Commission Zdzislaw Sadowski. Also minister for Foreign Economic Cooperation Wladyslaw Gwiazda met with the GDR official.

Jaruzelski Meets Bulgarian, Vietnamese Envoys

LD161907 Warsaw PAP in English
1804 GMT 16 Jan 88

[Text] Warsaw, Jan. 16—President of Poland's Council of State Wojciech Jaruzelski received here today ambassador of the People's Republic of Bulgaria Ivan Prumov.

Also today, the Polish leader received Nguyen Thuan, the ambassador of Vietnam.

Gwiazda Receives SRV Foreign Trade Official

LD182240 Warsaw PAP in English
2126 GMT 18 Jan 88

[Text] Warsaw, Jan. 18—Polish Minister for Economic Cooperation with abroad Wladyslaw Gwiazda met here today with Vietnamese Vice Minister of Foreign Trade Le Kim Lang.

The two reviewed the state of economic relations and trade between both states and their prospects.

Iranian Foreign Minister To Visit

LD161100 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish
2300 GMT 15 Jan 88

[Text] In the last third of January Iranian Foreign Affairs Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati will come to Poland on an official revisit. He will be a guest of Minister Marian Orzechowski.

Ceausescu Receives DPRK Party Delegation

AU192120 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 2013 GMT 19 Jan 88

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES, 19/1/1988—On January 19, Nicolae Ceausescu, general secretary of the Romanian Communist Party president of the Socialist Republic of Romania, received a party and government delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, led by Kim Yun-hyok, vice-premier of the Administration Council, chairman of the Construction and Building Materials Commission, who are paying a visit to Romania.

President Nicolae Ceausescu was conveyed a cordial salute and the warmest congratulations and wishes of long life, good health and happiness on his forthcoming birthday on behalf of Kim Il-song, general secretary of the CC of the Workers' Party of Korea, president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. A warm salute and the best wishes were also conveyed on behalf of Kim Yong-il, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau, secretary of the CC of the Workers' Party of Korea.

President Nicolae Ceausescu thanked and requested that President Kim Il-song be conveyed his warm salute and best wishes and the friendly Korean people further and ever greater successes in socialist construction. At the same time, the RCP general secretary conveyed Kim Yong-il a salute and wishes of success in his activity.

During the interview emphasis was placed on the need to fulfill the understandings reached during the summit talks conducted in Bucharest and Pyongyang, on further possibilities of intensifying and expanding mutually advantageous cooperation on various planes between the two countries.

President Nicolae Ceausescu reiterated, on this occasion, too, the Romanian people's solidarity with the Korean people's just fight, its active support to President Kim Il-song's proposals for a peaceful reunification of Korea and the creation of a free and independent country.

On behalf of the party and state leaders of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea the guest conveyed President Nicolae Ceausescu, the Romanian party and government, the whole Romanian people the warmest thanks for the support granted to the Korean people's fight for the peaceful and independent reunification of the fatherland, high valuation for the policy of understanding, collaboration and peace carried on by Romania.

The interview was attended by Stefan Andrei, deputy prime minister.

Also present was Cho Yong-kuk, ambassador of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in Bucharest.

Ceausescu Receives Indian Journalist

AU192052 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 2018 GMT 19 Jan 88

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES, 19/01/1988—Tuesday, the president of the Socialist Republic of Romania, Nicolae Ceausescu, received B.C. Gupta, director of "Socialook International Publications", editor-in-chief of SOCIALOOK INTERNATIONAL periodical of India.

The guest warmly thanked for the interview, for the new opportunity of visiting Romania, and was highly appreciative of the results of the Romanian people in the most various domains. The editor kindly asked the Romanian party and state leader to receive the books "Nicolae Ceausescu—a Life Dedicated to the Ideals of Social Justice and Liberty of the Romanian People" and "Nicolae Ceausescu: Peace and Disarmament—Fundamental Imperatives of the Contemporary Epoch" put out by "Socialook International Publications."

He stressed that the two books brought out in observance of Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu's birthday and more than 55 years of revolutionary activity were a homage paid to Romania's president whose tireless work dedicated to the progress of his homeland and the well-being of his people, to the insurance of a climate of peace, security and cooperation among nations enjoys wide international appreciation.

President Nicolae Ceausescu thanked and said that the publication of the new volumes contributed to a better knowledge and rapprochement between the Romanian and Indian peoples. In that context he expressed his wish for a continuous development of the fine ties of friendship and cooperation between Romania and India. checkspelling

Oancea Visits Algeria, Meets Official

AU152043 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1923 GMT 15 Jan 88

[Text] Algiers, AGERPRES, 15/01/1988—Algiers was the venue of a working interview at the level of the foreign ministries of the Socialist Republic of Romania and the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria.

On the occasion Romania's deputy minister of foreign affairs, Constantin Oancea, had interviews with Abderrazak Bouhara, member of the standing secretariat of the CC of the National Liberation Front, in charge of foreign relations, and with other local officials.

Ways were looked into of intensifying bilateral collaboration ventures and expanding mutually advantageous economic cooperation and Romanian-Algerian friendly links, in the spirit of the decisions and understandings reached at top level.

Stoian Visits Spain, Meets With PCE Officials

AU192051 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 2003 GMT 19 Jan 88

[Text] Madrid, AGERPRES, 19/1/1988—The President of the Communist Party of Spain, Dolores Ibarruri, received Ion Stoian, alternate member of the Executive Political Committee, secretary of the CC of the RCP, now on a visit to Spain. On the occasion, the president of the Communist Party of Spain was conveyed, on behalf of the RCP General Secretary Nicolae Ceausescu and Elena Ceausescu, a cordial message of friendship as well as the best wishes of good health and happiness.

Dolores Ibarruri thanked for the message and the wishes, and conveyed Nicolae Ceausescu and Elena Ceausescu warm salutes and best wishes of new successes in their activity, and the Romanian people wishes of prosperity and ever greater achievements in socialist construction.

On the forthcoming anniversary of the RCP general secretary's birthday, Dolores Ibarruri conveyed President Nicolae Ceausescu the most cordial congratulations, wishes of long life, power of work and happiness, as well as new and great successes in attaining the targets of socialist construction in Romania, just as in his tireless struggle for international peace and collaboration.

Messages were also exchanged in Madrid between the RCP general secretary, Nicolae Ceausescu, the secretary-general of the Communist Party of Spain, Gerardo Iglesias, during his meeting with Ion Stoian.

The secretary-general of the Communist Party of Spain conveyed Nicolae Ceausescu warm congratulations, wishes of happiness and long life as well as power of work on his forthcoming birthday.

During the interview emphasis was placed on the strengthening and expansion of the ties friendship, collaboration and solidarity between the Romanian Communist Party and the Communist Party of Spain, based on mutual esteem and confidence. At the same time, information was exchanged on the present and future concerns and targets of the two parties related to the international situation.

Zanfir Named Farm Produce Contracting Minister

AU200801 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 0641 GMT 20 Jan 88

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES, 20/01/1988—The Farm Produce Contracting and Acquisition Ministry has been set up in Romania with Constantin Zanfir as its minister.

The new Ministry is to perform the activities of contracting and acquisition of the Ministry of Food Industry and Farm Produce Acquisition which turns into the Ministry of Food Industry, as well as of the Ministries of Agriculture, Chemical, Petrochemical and Light Industries.

Leaders Public Appearances 10-16 Jan

AU162020 [Editorial Report] Bucharest AGERPRES in English 10-16 January 1988 reports the following public appearances of Romanian leaders (sourcelines given in parentheses):

On 11 January, President Nicolae Ceausescu received Suleyman Okyar Gunden, the new Turkish envoy to Bucharest, who presented his credentials to the Romanian president in Sinaia Resort (1947 GMT 11 Jan).

On 14 January, Nicolae Ceausescu, RCP secretary general and president of Romania chaired a meeting of the PEC of the RCP Central Committee in Sinaia Resort (2016 GMT 14 Jan).

On 13 January, Constantin Dascalescu, prime minister of the Romanian Government received L.A. Voronin, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, chairman of the State Supply Committee of the USSR; Ion C. Petre, minister of technical-material supply and control of fixed assets administration attended the interview (1849 GMT 13 Jan).

On 14 January, Premier Dascalescu received heads of the delegations participating in the 23d session of the CEMA Committee for Cooperation in the Fields of Technical and Material Supply (1534 GMT 14 Jan).

On 14 January, Ilie Vaduva, minister of foreign trade and international economic cooperation met with Helmut Kohl, federal chancellor of the FRG, in Bonn (2004 GMT 14 Jan).

DPRK Embassy Denies Bombing Accusations

AU191839 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 18 Jan 88 p 14

[TANJUG report: "Denial of the DPRK Embassy in Belgrade"]

[Text] Belgrade, 17 Jan—Kim Pyong-kil, charge d'affaires of the DPRK Embassy in Yugoslavia, today categorically denied the claim of the ROK Government that North Korean agents allegedly planted explosives in an South Korean KAL airliner flying the Baghdad-Seoul route, which crashed at the end of last November. He stated that the DPRK had nothing to do with the plane crash and called such accusations "pure fabrication."

In his statement to TANJUG, Kim Pjong Gil also categorically denied that officials of the DPRK Embassy in Belgrade supplied the assassins with the explosives as was claimed in the "results of investigation" which were recently made public in Seoul. He said that the embassy official with the name mentioned in the announcement issued by the ROK authorities does not exist and added that such a person has never been employed at the DPRK diplomatic mission in Yugoslavia.

Kim Pyong-kil said that no girl and no accomplice had any kind of contact with representatives of his country's embassy in Yugoslavia.

Sundic Comments on International Relations

On Soviet-U.S. Dialogue

LD151859 Zagreb Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1400 GMT 15 Jan 88

[Text] [Announcer] Here is our foreign political commentary. The latest round of Soviet-U.S. negotiations on the reduction of long-range missiles opened in Geneva yesterday. An agreement on this may be coordinated by the time Reagan makes his return visit to Moscow. Milika Sundic comments:

[Sundic] The Geneva talks will certainly not be at all easy, as was the case with the talks which led to the agreement on scrapping medium- and shorter-range missiles. And judging by the way in which both sides approached the new round of negotiations, one gets the impression that both are inclined to take full advantage of the present favorable climate in mutual relations.

During Mikhail Gorbachev's visit to Washington an agreement in principle was reached concerning the volume of reduction in strategic nuclear missiles with the same control measures which would be applied to implementation of the agreement on medium- and shorter-range missiles. Let us recall that this control is especially important, because it permits both sides the security to actually realize what has been agreed.

The date of President Reagan's visit to Moscow is not yet specified, but it is presumed that the visit will take place in mid-summer. Until then both Moscow and Washington are given the opportunity to work out to the last detail the provisions of the new agreement and, furthermore, to raise some other issues important for the improvement of Soviet-U.S. relations, to raise some other issues important for the improvement of Soviet-U.S. relations, primarily those which cause suspicion when it comes to the international behavior of the two superpowers.

Judging by everything, the two superpowers will have support both from their allies and from the international community as a whole during the second round of negotiations, as was the case when they were fighting about the agreement on scrapping medium- and shorter-range missiles. True, the reduction of strategic nuclear weapons, that is, long-range missiles by 50 percent will not free the world from the fear that some new war may break out, because the remaining weapons will be a large threat of peace in the world. However, every step forward in the direction of disarmament has not only military but also political significance, which in present circumstances is as important as the actual reduction in the number of long-range missiles.

An improvement in the climate in relations between the two superpowers would facilitate the solving of many problems in the world, above all regional problems, and would certainly contribute to the promotion of economic cooperation which is still restricted by bloc criteria, particularly on the U.S. side.

As no one has any doubts anymore about Reagan's return visit, and because both sides are very much interested in it, it will no doubt be easier for Reagan's successor to continue seeking agreement with the Soviet Union. Reagan's 8-year term in the White House, let us recall, expires at the end of this year, and the course which relations between the Soviet Union and the United States will take during the term of Reagan's successor will largely depend on relations between them at that time. As far as Moscow is concerned it is quite certain that it will do its utmost not to spoil the process of agreement-seeking with Washington, because the fate of restructuring in the Soviet Union largely depends on it. Its creator Mikhail Gorbachev planned all his authority and prestige for it, not only in the country but also in the world. And because of the fact that the further process of democratization in the Soviet Union and within the socialist bloc depends on the success of restructuring we should believe that not even the Americans would hinder it, as this would be neither in their interest nor in the interest of the United States' allies, regardless of all the contradictions in the two systems.

On Soviet-PRC Links

LD182144 Zagreb Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1800 GMT 18 Jan 88

[Text] After the news, a commentary on an international event taking place very soon. The day after tomorrow, in

fact, a Soviet-Chinese dialogue begins in Moscow on border problems. Both sides hope that the final outcome of the talks will be successful. Here is a commentary by Milika Sundic:

[Sundic] Even after the refusal of Deng Ziaoping to meet with Mikhail Gorbachev before Vietnamese troops withdraw from Cambodia—something which, in the assessment of Beijing, Moscow can have a decisive influence on—relations between China and the USSR are increasingly bearing the marks of explicit tolerance and increasing interest in internal developments, especially those relating to economic reforms in the two countries. China will probably persist in its demands that the USSR distance itself from Vietnamese intervention Cambodia, because this, for China, was and has remained the chief obstacle to full normalization of political relations with the USSR but, on the other hand, this will not discourage it from developing and improving economic, scientific-technical, and cultural cooperation with Moscow, not losing hope, in the process, that sometime a normalization in political relations between the two countries will also come about.

Everything is going as previously agreed in the schedule of negotiations, with the difference that the meetings about concrete questions are becoming increasingly more meaningful and there are significantly greater prospects of individual disputes being solved in a way which satisfies both sides. Thus, for example, as early as the day after tomorrow, a working group of the two countries will meet again with the task of trying to find a way around one of the most important problems in relations between China and the USSR. This is, in fact, a matter of the border problems, especially those along the eastern border, where, about 30 years ago there were armed conflicts.

For the time being no one will hazard a guess as to the final outcome of the forthcoming negotiations but on both sides the conviction prevails that the problem is, in the main, ripe for being solved and that not much time will pass before a final border is drawn between the two countries, including those sectors which hitherto were most in dispute.

The solution of the border problem between China and the USSR would have a favorable impact not only on overall relations between the two countries, but also on an improvement of the climate in this part of the world. In fact, with the possible Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan and the reduction of troops along the Soviet-Chinese border and in Mongolia, the appropriate preconditions would also be created for the solution of the Cambodian problem, thus opening up the way for a Soviet-Chinese summit, that is, for the full normalization of political relations both between China and the USSR and between Vietnam and China.

Also implied by the concept of the political normalization of relations is the establishment of inter-party cooperation. Of course, it is a big question as to what extent Moscow can, and not to what extent it would want, to accelerate the solution to the problems standing in the way of the full normalization of relations with China in the current circumstances. In principle, the USSR has a vital interest in maintaining stable and good relations with China but this also implies certain renunciations, especially where the arguments are in Beijing's favor. Of course, this in no ways means that China is not prepared to make certain concessions, especially where it is a matter of bilateral relations. China is, in fact, aware that it cannot get everything it is seeking, especially when it is a matter of border corrections but on the other hand it feels the need to have good and stable relations with the USSR, because, in the final analysis, this is in conformity with China's decision to open itself up generally to the world. How far things have gotten in this respect will be revealed by the forthcoming dialogue about border problems which both sides are entering into full of optimism.

Tupurkovski on International Position of SFRY

LD181719 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1452 GMT 18 Jan 88

[Text] Bitola, 18 Jan (TANJUG)—Vasil Tupurkovski, a member of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, spoke today in Botola to the Political aktiv about international relations and the international position of Yugoslavia and the LCY. Analyzing the general characteristics of international events, Tupurkovski stressed in particular that despite positive developments in the relations between the super powers, tension and the acquisition of armaments continue to be the fundamental characteristic of these events. We take the view that confrontation has no prospects and that the only way forward is through cooperation and negotiation.

Speaking about inter-Balkan cooperation, Tupurkovski stressed that the upcoming first conference of the foreign ministers of the Balkan countries provides the possibility for confirmation of the principles of Yugoslav foreign policy. We need good relations with our neighbors and good relations in Europe and beyond, within the framework of the well-known principles of our international policy, Tupurkovski stressed.

Sarajevo Court Sentences Agrokomerc Officials

LD191701 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1508 GMT 19 Jan 88

[Text] Sarajevo, 19 Jan (TANJUG)—The criminal council of the higher court in Sarajevo today sentenced Husein Cuk to 6 years', Vinko Musa to 7 years', and Radivoje Sironjic to 3 years' 6 months imprisonment. As was stated by Vasvija Vidovic, who was presiding, in her explanation, the men are guilty of buying from the Yugotrade firm in Vienna, for the use of Agrokomerc, soya which was imported at more expensive prices,

although they had a cheaper offer from Finagrain of Geneva. For concluding such an agreement, Cuk, as a representative of Agrokomerc, and Musa and Sironjic of Poljoeksport from Sarajevo, caused losses to Agrokomerc totaling about $834,000. As well as prison sentences, it was also pronounced that their entire property should be confiscated and that they should be banned from carrying out their corresponding jobs for a period of 3 years following their release from prison.

Vasvija Vidovic, presiding, stressed that the findings of experts confirmed that Vinko Musa bore most of the responsibility for concluding this damaging agreement, as he was the leading figure, and so he was given the longest sentence.She stated that Husein Cuk showed the greatest persistence in ensuring that the agreement was concluded in the way that it was. Finally, she said that during the trial the theory appeared that the accused had been carrying out the wishes of leading figures, above all of Fikret Abdic. She added that without the "small" and obedient, there could be no so-called "top people."

9 Soldiers Sentenced for 'Hostile Activity'

LD191608 Zagreb Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1400 GMT 19 Jan 88

[Excerpts] The trial of nine soldiers from the Prilep garrison ended yesterday at Skopje Military Court. At the main hearing, which lasted 5 days, it was established that (?Naser Krasnici) perpetrated the criminal act of association for the purpose of hostile activity in contravention of Article 136, Paragraph 1, in connection with Articles 114 and 122 of the Yugoslav penal code. [passage omitted]

The accused, (Naser Krasnici), organizer of the hostile group, was sentenced to 8 years, while group members (Besim Ugasi), (Ramiz Ahmeti), and (Dzemajli Marosi) were given prison sentences of 5 years. (Zef Preni) received 4 years and 6 months; (Bajram Keljmendi), 3 years; (Ramiz Bajrami), 2 years, and (Swiji Dembogaj) and (Zekeri Uburnik) received 18 months each.

Serbian Constitutional Changes Adopted

AU152133 Belgrade POLITIKA in Serbo-Croatian 9 Jan 88 p 1

[Z.N. and I.A. report: "Session of the Constitutional Commission of the Assembly of the SR of Serbia: Step Toward Constitutional Changes"]

[Text] After a discussion lasting 3 hours yesterday, in which 13 speakers took part, the republican Constitutional Commission at its session decided to propose to the Assembly of the SR of Serbia that at its session on Monday it adopt the proposal by the Presidency of the SR of Serbia to embark on changes to the Republican Constitution.

The session of the Constitutional Commission started with a half-hour delay, for this was the time allowed for the members to acquaint themselves with the changes in the proposal by the Presidency of the SR of Serbia to embark on changes to the Republican Constitution which had been adopted at a session of the Presidency of the SR of Serbia a day earlier. As is know, all ten disputed points were agreed on. This opened the way to preparing the draft constitutional amendments.

Opening the session, Miodrag Bogdanovic, president of the republican Commission for Constitutional Questions, stressed that the Constitutional Commission was for the first time discussing the proposal to change the Republican Constitution. It had waited for the opinions of the working bodies of the assembly of the SR of Serbia, and the assessments and positions of other participants in the process of adopting changes in the Constitution. The public discussion on a small scale, Bogdanovic said, contributed to a clarification of the disputed questions, but some of them were complicated and politicized.

The serious economic situation, the shaken role and prospects of the workers class, the many unsolved existential problems of the young generation, the tendency toward social disintegration in all fields of work, the impotence and inefficiency of social and political organs in many social situations, and the emergence of a social consciousness that does not accept such occurrences and tendencies—Aleksandar Mitrovic, member of the Presidency of the SR of Serbia, pointed out in his opening remarks—have created a situation in which it is justly expected and demanded that the constitutional changes should create conditions for overcoming the problems that have piled up through years.

In the course of the past years, Mitrovic added, the awareness was maturing of the necessity of certain changes in the economic and political systems as a prerequisite for a quicker way out of the crisis, for the economic and social problems that face our society have their foundation, among other things, in some constitutional provisions that hamper the process of self-managing integration and the development of self-managing socialist relations and that do not allow a market economy and the independence of associated labor organizations.

It is not known to all, and it is politically confirmed, Mitrovic pointed out, that owing to the imprecision, incompleteness, and contradiction of some constitutional provisions in the Constitution of the SR of Serbia, and especially owing to the practice that has arisen out of these imprecisions, as well as to the implementation of such constitutional provisions, some relations in Serbia are such that even now it cannot implement some of its basic and vital functions in important social spheres over its entire territory, the territory where Serbia is a state in a legal and actual sense according to the SFRY Constitution and the Constitution of the SR of Serbia.

Speaking about the painstaking work in reaching an accord, Mitrovic remarked that every wording, every word were analyzed, and one worked long, almost without a time limit, with the participation of a large number of professional and responsible people. A large number of versions were drafted, numerous consultations were carried out, and so it went until conditions were created for overcoming all the problems noted.

It is important, Mitrovic stressed in conclusion, that we have reached accord on all the questions, for I believe that we will also reach accord on the question of public security, and that all the questions envisaged have been adopted as a proposal for constitutional changes in the SR of Serbia. With the adoption of the proposal changed in such a way, containing the ten points proposed by the Presidency of the SR of Serbia, we make it possible for the Assembly of the SR of Serbia to adopt the proposal in its entirety on Monday, 11 January, and to request the final consent of the assemblies of the socialist autonomous provinces.

Serbian Stances Praised

AU151904 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 11 Jan 88 p 3

[TANJUG report: "The People Applaud the Agreement"]

[Text] Novi Sad, 10 Jan—An approving round of applause—this could most concisely describe the mood of the wider public in their truly cordial acceptance of the stances and agreements confirmed at the last session of the Presidency of the SR of Serbia, writes the Novi Sad DNEVNIK in a commentary entitled "The Effects of the Agreement."

DNEVNIK writes: "The long-awaited political agreement, by which contentious questions were actually agreed on and key disagreements between republics and provinces over constitutional changes in the SR of Serbia (because of the Presidency of the SR of Serbia abandoning its proposal) were resolved, was reached in one very tense moment when the serious question arose: Will this so called constitutional crisis also provoke a political crisis in province-republic relations, or more exactly in the construction of togetherness."

"The disagreement, which lasted for many months, over the amendments to the constitutional document of the republic was negatively reflected in the daily vital course of our togetherness and cooperation in various activities and fields. These negative consequences did not manifest themselves systematically and en masse as a general atmosphere, but appeared here and there and caused restlessness and apprehension about their future form and extent and how long they would last," writes DNEVNIK.

DNEVNIK says that if they were really warmly applauded by the people, the contents and messages of this successful political agreement simply must be reflected and realized not only in constitutional discussions, but also far wider, in all relations and fields of cooperation and togetherness.

Said simply, this spirit of harmony should find its own place and have a beneficial effect in the area of economic, cultural, and any other social cooperation. This political agreement is not just a road to an amended constitution, it is also both a message and stimulus to the practical construction of togetherness today, in every mutual social and economic process of decisionmaking and agreement.

Serbian Orthodox Church Patriarch Interviewed

AU151622 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 31 Dec 87, 1, 2, 3 Jan 88 p 19

["Excerpts" from the interview with Serbian Patriarch German by Mirjana Smiljkovic-Radetic carried by Belgrade VECERNJE NOVOSTI—place and date not given]

[Text] [Smiljkovic-Radetic] Could you please evaluate the present situation in the Serbian Orthodox Church and the problems it is encountering?

[Patriarch German] The life of our Church during recent years has been considerably more dynamic, and also more complex. The participation of our believers, particularly young ones, in church life and work is noticeably more active and lively. Unfortunately, we have learned that some of them have troubles because of this activity. Some of the problems of our church were presented in the announcement made by the Archpriests' Holy Synod at its recent extraordinary meeting.

Any Kind of Extremism Is Harmful [subhead]

[Smiljkovic-Radetic] For years now, relations between the social community and the church community have been assessed as traditionally good and as being on a permanent ascent. What is preventing those relations from being even better? Is there not some misunderstanding about the construction of some church buildings (such as the case of Rudovci or Varvarin) where communal bureaucracy meddles with the church's constitutional rights?

[Patriarch German] Our public has been well informed about the contacts between official representatives of the church and the state, so one gets the impression that the relations are good. Working in conformity with the Scriptures, the church is doing everything in its power to make them really good. However, one can see from the second part of your question that individual members of

the state administration or—as you have put it—"communal bureaucracy" hinder the church in using its constitutional rights in practice. The problem is that the cases of Rudovci and Varvarin are not the only ones.

[Smiljkovic-Radetic] To what extent is the extremist behavior of individuals either from church or state circles harmful to the development of good relations between the state and the church?

[Patriarch German] Generally speaking, any kind of extremism, whatever its sources, is harmful.

[Smiljkovic-Radetic] What are the relations of the Serbian Orthodox Church with other religious communities like?

[Patriarch German] We are making efforts so that relations with all religious communities can remain good to the largest possible extent.

[Smiljkovic-Radetic] How are the works on the construction of the St Sava Temple and the new building of the Theological Faculty progressing?

[Patriarch German] The works are progressing well so far. The love of our people for St Sava and their response to the appeal for funds are touching. The enthusiasm of the entire team contracted for projects and works is also praiseworthy.

However, because of the general economic crisis, the inflow of resources is a bit slow and expenses are increasing. Therefore, we use this opportunity to call on all those people who hold dear this great historic work to show themselves worthy of the great centuries-long spiritual and historic heritage and our people's readiness to make donations. At the same time, we hope that everybody knows that the construction is financed solely by voluntary contributions.

The roof has been put on the building of the Theological Faculty. We expect that all those people who understand the importance of the Theological Faculty for the life of the church and the culture of the Serbian people will help the completion of the new building in order that one could ensure normal work to this highest scientific-educational institution in the Serbian Orthodox Church as soon as possible.

Concern About Kosovo [subhead]

[Smiljkovic-Radetic] In what state are Serbian Orthodox monasteries and are they, being cultural and historical monuments, devoted suitable attention to, especially in Kosovo?

[Patriarch German] The spiritual, cultural, and general popular significance that the Serbian Orthodox monasteries had through the centuries and have today is well-known. Many monasteries are now being renewed by great sacrifices of our monks and through efforts of the Institute for Protection of Cultural Monuments. However, there are still some monasteries that cry out for repair and renovation. Our greatest concern are our monasteries in Kosovo and Metohija, as well as the ones at Fruska Gora. The Serbian Orthodox Church has been exerting special efforts and devoting special attention to the monasteries in those two regions and farther. We believe that there will be more understanding and more work on the renovation and protection of all our monasteries.

The Serbian People's First University [subhead]

[Smiljkovic-Radetic] About the Hilandar Monastery [Serbian monastery at Mount Athos, Greece] today: How many monks are living in the monastery now and how many are going to it from here?

[Patriarch German] Throughout its history Hilandar has been the Serbian People's spiritual center and its first university. In a certain way it has remained this. This is why it is the object of our constant love and care. We talked about Hilandar with His Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Dhimitrios I, because the entire Mount Athos, including Hilandar, is under his spiritual jurisdiction.

About 20 monks are now living in the Hilandar Monastery; there should be more of them.

[Smiljkovic-Radetic] To what extent does the church contribute to overcoming the grave situation in Kosovo, considering the fact that not a single orthodox priest has left the province to date?

[Patriarch German] The very fact that not a single priest or monk has left Kosovo and Metohija already indicates the contribution the Serbian orthodox Church has made with a view to overcoming the grave situation there. The church cannot help being careful about Kosovo. This Old Serbia is the cradle of our history, the cradle of our ecclesiastical and secular culture, whose evidence are all those beautiful holy objects and historical monuments. However, it is also the land of great pain and suffering, the land consecrated with Serbian blood and tears. How is then the church to leave that land? For in that case, the mother would renounce both her children and herself, and she cannot do that. Therefore, as we have said, not a single priest, nun, or monk has left Kosovo and Metohija. We hope that this is clear to everybody.

Trade Union President Discusses Unity

AU142016 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 31 Dec 87 1, 2, 3 Jan 88 p 1

[Interview with Zvonko Hrabar, president of the Federation of the Trade Unions of Yugoslavia, by Bosko Grbic—date and place not given]

[Text] Several days ago when I visited the IMT organization of New Belgrade—Zvonimir Hrabar, president of Yugoslav Trade Unions, started our conversation—I

had notes that I wanted to talk about. But instead of going by my notes I started to sweat. I was asked some direct and increasing unpleasant questions, our situation was discussed openly, and there was no place for stock phrases.

I was asked: Why do we have eight economies, why eight academies of science, why do we have eight different education systems, can the workers class of this country withstand this? It became clear to me, and should become clear to some other people, that this was not a matter of unitarianism but of the basic unity in the country. One worker said: "We are running out of patience, nobody except the union replies to our written demands. We will use other means."

False Prosperity [subhead]

I asked myself, Hrabar continued, what those "other" means were. Perhaps when they announce a strike they will not allow their money to leave the premises. They want to decide how to distribute it. They accepted what I spoke about, but said that they were fed up with everything. They also warn me: We were visited by Zivana Olbina and Ivan Stambolic, and they were replaced, and you should think about yourself.

[Grbic] Will the Federation of Trade Unions put into political form what the workers—insufficiently united in an increasing number of strikes—demand?

[Hrabar] The Federation of Trade Unions will have to do this. If it does not, the workers will reject it. The culmination of dissatisfaction is already here. The people do not want to pay the membership fee, they do not want to be members. Our shortcomings lie in the fact that we are inadequately expressing the authentic views and demands of the workers class. We must offer specific solutions. The other problem is whether we really have conditions to do this. We want the Constitution to define more specifically the role of the Federation of Trade Unions, we want, for instance, to see the enactment of legislation according to which the Assembly would have to seek the opinion of our organs in passing some laws.

[Grbic] What happened to the idea of introducing the Chamber of Associated Labor in the SFRY Assembly?

[Hrabar] It is difficult to comment on something that needs to be discussed first. When we in the Presidium start discussing constitutional changes we will also discuss this topic on the basis of associated labor's point of view. If the workers are in favor of a Chamber of Associated Labor, then I do not have the right to fail to fight for it, regardless of what I personally think about it.

[Grbic] How are decisions arrived at in the federal forums of the Federation of Trade Unions? Are the strong republican "winds" not felt there, too?

[Hrabar] Unfortunately the Federation of Trade Union is also not free either of the disease that has affected our society—disintegration. However, recently we have been working on how to ensure the integrity of our organization. Regardless of whether some people will say: Is this not a call for centralism, unitarianism?—one must know that we demand self-managing solutions that would put the workers class in a better position. We are trying as hard as we can to find this integrational factor, to overcome different views, bearing in mind the unified interests of the workers class. We are fighting for proposals that would be the most acceptable proposals for Yugoslavia, for all the republics and provinces. As far as I know, the highest degree of uniformity of views exists in the Federation of Trade Unions.

[Grbic] We could find ourselves in a situation with more than two million workers striking a year. Strikes are pressure on the Federation of Trade Unions to change. Would this "wave" change the workers' organization?

[Hrabar] Not only the Federation of Trade Unions, but also the LC, and all subjective forces. We have been living in false prosperity, we were borrowing. Now we have to repay this and live under new conditions. The Trade Unions must change in such a way that they are not taken in by its protective function. It has happened that during some strikes the workers condemned the demands of their comrades for a 50-100 percent increase when there were no funds available for that. They also say: Who has the right to curb higher earnings when the funds for this are available. During the strikes everything is initially oriented toward attacks on the state, the FEC. The situation becomes clearer 3 days after and the incompetent collective managements "responsible" for sloppiness lose their positions.

[Grbic] The new Law on Associated Labor retained provisions (extraordinary meetings, joint councils) for conflict situations. What is this meant to achieve?

[Hrabar] The most important thing in these disputes is to search for solutions gradually. The Confederation of Trade Unions has its obligations toward the workers and must fulfill them according to their demands. We already have examples of workers organizing extraordinary meetings during stoppages and forming joint councils including the union representatives.

But if they are not accepted by the workers?

If that happens that means that the union is not a workers' organization there. One must strive to ensure that the Federation of Trade Unions is trusted through its work, rather than through its official authority.

"Concealed" Money [subhead]

[Grbic] How is it that what the worker could not achieve as a self-managing person and as a member of the trade union, he can suddenly achieve as a striker: To receive

an increase in his personal income? What does this "duplicity" mean? And where does the money come from which the self-managing worker could not previously afford? Who is in fact "buying" social peace?

[Hrabar] We do have situations in which normal, regular methods are not used and in which workers resort to strikes first, situations in which there was not, for instance, a trade union or workers's council meeting. Trade unions are the political basis for self-managing decisionmaking.

We looked into this—that is, where the money came from. First, in a number of cases the money, or a part of it, really existed but was "concealed." In those cases where more was demanded, loans were raised under the pressure of ensuring "peace in the family," or the existing losses were simply increased. There were also situations where it was decided to meet the demands, but the money had to be found later. The Federation of Trade Unions should find out who practices this and with what right. Work stoppage must not end without people being called to account, not in the style of "who started it" (a worker could be called to face up to responsibility if he has caused damage), but by calling those who caused the hopeless situation to bear the responsibility.

[Grbic] In normal conditions people avoid trade union posts, but when a strike occurs the workers unmistakably push the right people into the front row. How can organizations find the right cadre if the Federation of Trade Unions does not come out from the shadow of the state and the party?

[Hrabar] There is not much interference "from outside" in the cadre policy of basic organizations, but this is still present at a higher level. We have cases of people taking up their post without having any prior connection with trade unions, which is a result of the cadre merry-go-round. This is why we are in this grave situation.

[Grbic] Do party forums set out demands, "directives" for trade unions, or do they think that the Communists in trade unions should themselves act spontaneously?

[Hrabar] As far as the federal level is concerned, I do not feel that anybody from the top level of the party has issued us with directives. Of course, we know that in many places dictates and directives are sent to trade union organizations, and that some officials run to the LC committees for an opinion.

[Grbic] What do people in the Federation of Trade Unions think about the social stratification of society. Are those who claim that a class struggle is being waged in our country exaggerating?

[Hrabar] Above all, social differences obviously exist, and they are not a result of the work. As the situation regarding the standard of living is becoming worse, these differences are becoming more prominent. Therefore, one can speak about elements of a class struggle. Today the most adversely affected people are those who create new value. As many as 61 percent of the workers have personal incomes below the national average and there is a huge difference among the republics: in Macedonia this number is almost 85 percent, while in Slovenia it is only 12.9 percent.

In Hrabar's opinion, the causes of the stratification of society lie partly in systemic solutions. The taxation policy has not been applied to eliminate the causes of social differences, and even what we have is often flouted. We are simply not stimulating people, we are forcing them to look for additional sources of income, they see their workplace only as their social protection. This, of course, is not the way out of the crisis.

On 'Worrying' Trend of Letters

LD152225 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1623 GMT 15 Jan 88

[Excerpt] Belgrade, 15 Jan (TANJUG)—The Presidium of the Council of the Yugoslav Trade Union Federation (SSJ) today—it is late in doing so—placed on the agenda the open letter sent to it by the Presidium of the Council of the Slovene Trade Union Federation. The content of the letter was published back in December.

Briefly, the letter states that the conditions in which associated labor finds itself after the adoption of intervention measures are such that they do not enable the normal development of production, that the generation of income is being hampered, and that the social position of employees has deteriorated. Demands were also made as to which kind of business conditions should be ensured this year. At the end there is an ultimatum-like request for the demands in the letter to be fulfilled.

Analyzing the letter, Zvonomir Hrabar [president of the Council of the SSJ] said that the Presidium had earlier received similar letters from collectives, but that this was the first time he had been addressed by a Presidium of a republican trade union. He observed that it was topical before the adoption of the resolution for this year; however, some questions could continue to be the subject of attention.

Hrabar also observed that turning to the highest organ of the trade unions is a logical consequence of the situation and the dissatisfaction of the membership that is requesting that the trade unions should have a greater influence on the course of social events. What is worrying is the fact that they increasingly contain an ultimatum-like approach aimed at delegate bodies to try to make them make this or that pronouncement. [passage omitted]

Slovene SAWP Presidium Adopts Changes

AU161944 Belgrade POLITIKA in Serbo-Croatian 13 Jan 88 p 8

[Verica Rupar report: "Session of the Presidium of the Republican Conference of the SAWP of Slovenia: Greater Electoral Uncertainty"]

[Text] Ljubljana, 12 Jan—The interest in the session of the Presidium of the Republican Conference of the SAWP of Slovenia today could be explained by the new composition of this republican body (awkward questions by newly elected members of the Presidium) as well as with the subjects which obviously no longer tolerate stereotyped debates: elections and constitutional changes.

Today the Presidium adopted a conclusion on the procedure and the manner of electing candidates for the president of the Presidency of the SR of Slovenia (France Popit is at the end of his second 2-year term) and candidates for offices in the Assembly of the SR of Slovenia and the assemblies of the Self-Managing Interest Communities (the majority of officials have the right to another term). Some new proposals from this document will occupy the attention of nomination conferences that are the backbone of the "presidential election" in the spring. The lists of candidates may be added to at every nomination gathering if a quarter of those present are in favor; and another innovation: candidates may offer programs or their visions of future work.

For a Democratic Discussion [subhead]

A timetable has been fixed for each point of the election procedure: the last election session of the Slovene Assembly will be held at the beginning of May.

One of the footnotes of this document attracted the attention of Mile Setinc, and it seems not without reason: "Here it says that in case the president of the Presidency of the SR of Slovenia is elected from among the members of the present Presidency, the writ for supplementary elections of a Presidency member will be issued within 14 days, so one should start thinking about a possible candidate now. It would be a sort of dormant nomination. It is rumored in the lobbies that Popit is going and Marinc is coming. I think that all this may resemble a cadre set piece and that matters should be clarified now." The Presidency agreed to delete the footnote from the document.

The second point on the agenda—constitutional changes—also provoked an interesting discussion. After the introductory remarks by Geza Bacic to the effect that the public discussion begins tomorrow with the publication of the draft constitutional amendments and that it is necessary that it should be comprehensive, well argued, and democratic, Ciril Zlobec expressed his regret that the discussion in the SFRY Assembly Federal Chamber was held in the shadow cast by the bargaining about the economic resolution. "We must not be apathetic and careless. The SAWP should organize the discussion in such a way that the prevailing public opinion will be ascertained and that the disagreements that occur will be resolved. It is not important from where proposals come, but whether they are supported by arguments and whether they are acceptable. We must decide between proposals that could lead us to a modern European society with a modern Constitution, and compromise solutions that merely mitigate social tensions. It was agreed that the public discussion should last 6 months, but we now see that it will last 3."

Zoran Polic proposed that an appeal be addressed to the FEC and the SFRY Assembly to abolish programs that hamper successful business operations, such as the foreign exchange law, and not use waiting for constitutional changes as an excuse for everything. Concluding this point on the agenda, Joze Smole said that it was agreed in the SAWPY Federal Conference that the discussion should last "as long as it is shown to be necessary."

Mikulic in Polemics [subhead]

Under the point, "Any other business," Peter Novak requested that lawyers should decide whether Branko Mikulic was obliged to reply to SAWP of Slovenia when it asked in November about his involvement in the Agrokomerc affair, because he has not yet done so. Novak also requested that the Presidium of the Republican Conference of the SAWP of Slovenia write a statement for POLITIKA explaining Slovene positions, because according to Novak POLITIKA carries unacceptable articles on Slovenia. Peter Novak also mentioned the polemics by Dimitrij Rupel and Zoran Polic in DELO and proposed that "an objective report on the Liberation Front be written."

Replying to Novak's proposal, Joze Smole said that the SAWP was also not satisfied with the Ljubljana Bank's reply on Agrokomerc, that a delegate question was asked, and that matters have not been fully clarified in the SAWPY Federal Conferenc either. It was agreed that the Executive Council of the Assembly of Slovenia should prepare a report on the damage caused to the Slovene economy by the Agrokomerc case. Speaking about POLITIKA, which causes a surprise, there is no need to write declarations, but the negative appraisal of Slovenia, especially the accusations that it behaves egoistically, deserve the sharpest protest. "What has been written is a dirty trick [svinjarija]. Labels that are being affixed to Slovenia—such as nationalism, egoism, separatism—harm the entire Yugoslav community, just as the community is harmed by the assertion that we are the second suspicious point in the federation (following Kosovo)," Smole said.

Was There Any Eavesdropping [subhead]

Viktor Zakelj drew attention to sensitivity (the presentation of Slovene positions in other communities) and to the fact that Yugoslavia is a union of differences, which should be taken into account. "What is needed is a cultured and patient dialogue, and not communications between forums," Zakelj said. At the end, it was agreed that greater attention should be paid to cooperation between republican SAWP conferences (representatives of the Republican Conference of the SAWP of Serbia will probably be guests of the Slovene conference) and to cooperation with editors of Yugoslav media.

MLADINA discussed the subject of Mile Setinc's question at the conclusion of a story about the formation of an independent Communist Party of Yugoslavia and an independent trade union. MLADINA's chief editor commented on articles in OSLOBODJENJE and statements by the Secretariat for Internal Affairs of Bosnia-Hercegovina, and he concluded that MLADINA's telephones were tapped and that its letters were being intercepted. Considering that articles appeared in DNEVNIK and DELO later (a letter by OSLOBODJENJE correspondent in Ljubljana) which explained that Branko Tuco, the author of the letter about the formation of an independent party and trade union, himself talked about his conversation with MLADINA, Setinc asked for clarification: Has the Secretariat for Internal Affairs of Slovenia participated in discovering the author of the anonymous letter, in which way had it done it, and have the telephones been tapped? It was agreed that this will be discussed at the next session of the Press Council of the Republican Conference of the SAWP of Slovenia. However, Joze Smole remarked that the most important thing in the whole story is MLADINA's responsibility for publishing anonymous letters, thereby harming Slovenia and Yugoslavia greatly.

Several articles in NOVA REVIJA again deserve attention. Joze Smole proposed that they be discussed at the next session of the Presidium. Mile Setinc said that polemics should in principle be conducted in newspapers themselves, but Zoran Polic said that the discussion should be in the SAWP, because one of the texts says the SAWP is an anachronistic creation. This, too, will be discussed at a Press Council session.

'Strong' Earthquake in Bosnia-Hercegovina

LD200304 Belgrade TANJUG in English
0237 GMT 20 Jan 88

[Text] Belgrade, January 20 (TANJUG)—A strong earthquake was registered at 15 minutes past midnight local time by the seismological institute of Serbia with an epicenter 220 kilometres west of Belgrade, most probably in the Prnjavor region in the Republic of Bosnia and Hercegovina.

The magnitude of the earthquake was 4.8 degrees on the Richter scale with an intensity of 6 to 7 degrees on the Mercalli scale.

There have been no reports of damages yet. Seismologist Zoran Petrovic said an earthquake of this magnitude could crack buildings walls and cause other minor damage.